

# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 2080.

LONDON, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1867.

PRICE  
THREEPENCE  
Stamped Edition, 4d.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—  
THE SESSION of the FACULTY of MEDICINE will  
COMMENCE on TUESDAY, October 1st. Introductory Lecture,  
at 4 P.M., by Professor GRAILY HEWITT, M.D.

#### LECTURES IN WINTER TERM.

Medicine—Professor J. Russell Reynolds, M.D.  
Anatomy and Physiology—Professor Sharpey, M.D. F.R.S.  
Chemistry—Professor Williamson, F.R.S.  
Anatomy—Professor Billings, F.R.S.  
Comparative Anatomy—Professor Grant, M.D. F.R.S.  
Practical Physiology and Histology—Dr. Michael Foster.  
Surgery—Professor Marshall, F.R.S.  
Dental Surgery—Mr. Ibbetson, F.R.C.S.

#### LECTURES IN SUMMER TERM.

Midwifery—Professor Graify Hewitt, M.D.  
Medical Jurisprudence—Professor Harley, M.D. F.R.S.  
Practical Chemistry—Professor Williamson, F.R.S.  
Materia Medica and Therapeutics—Professor Ringer, M.D.  
Pathology—Professor Grant, M.D. F.R.S.  
Ophthalmic Medicine and Surgery—Professor T. W. Jones, F.R.S.  
Botany—Professor Oliver, F.R.S. F.L.S.  
Mental Diseases—W. H. O. Sankey, M.D.  
Operative Surgery—Mr. Christopher Heath, F.R.C.S.  
Analytical Chemistry—Professor Williamson, throughout the

#### UNIVERSITY COLLEGE HOSPITAL.

Physician—Dr. Jenner, F.R.S. Dr. Reynolds, Dr. Harley, F.R.S., Dr. Wilson Fox, Dr. Ringer.  
Obstetrics—Dr. Graify Hewitt.  
Physician to the Skin Infirmary—Dr. Hillier.  
Surgeons—Mr. Erichsen, F.R.S., Sir Henry Thompson.  
Assistant-Surgeons—Mr. Berkeley Hill, Mr. Christopher Heath, Dr. Gurney, Mr. Wharton Jones, F.R.S., Mr. J. F. Streetfield.  
Dental Surgery—Mr. Ibbetson.

#### CLINICAL INSTRUCTION.

Medical Clinical Lectures by Prof. Jenner, Prof. Reynolds, and Prof. Graify Hewitt. Dr. Wilson Fox, Holme Professor of Clinical Medicine, whose special duty it is to train the Pupils in the practical study of disease.

Surgical Clinical Lectures by Mr. Erichsen, Holme Professor of Clinical Surgery, Prof. Marshall, and Sir Henry Thompson.

Ophthalmic Diseases—Mr. Wharton Jones.

Operative Surgery—Mr. Christopher Heath, F.R.C.S.

Clinical Lectures on Diseases of the Skin by Dr. Hillier.

#### SCHOLARSHIPS, EXHIBITIONS, AND PRIZES.

##### ENTRANCE EXHIBITIONS.

Three entrance Exhibitions of the respective value of 30s., 20s., and 10s. per annum, for each of two years, will be awarded on examination to gentlemen who are about to commence their first year's attendance in a Medical School. The examination will be held in the last week of September. The subjects are Classics, Elementary Mathematics, Natural Philosophy, and other French or German at the option of the candidate.

An Atkins Morley Scholarship for the promotion of the study of Surgery, 45s. tenable for three years.

Filler Exhibition for proficiency in Pathological Anatomy, 30s.; Gold Medal for Clinical Surgery.

Dr. Fellowes Medals for Clinical Medicine, two Gold and two Silver.

Prospectuses and the regulations concerning the Exhibitions and Scholarships may be obtained on application either personal or by letter at the Office of the College.

WILSON FOX, M.D., Dean of the Faculty.

JOHN ROBSON, B.A., Secretary to the Council.

August, 1867.

#### UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON, SCHOOL.

Under the Government of the Council of the College.

Head Master—THOMAS HEWITT KEY, M.A. F.R.S.  
Vice-Master—E. B. HORTON, M.A., Fellow of St. Peter's College, Cambridge.

HENRY MALDEN, M.A., Professor of Greek in the College, has charge of the highest Greek Class.

The School will RE-OPEN on TUESDAY, September the 24th, for New Pupils, at 9:30 A.M. All the Boys must appear in their places on Wednesday, the 25th of September, at 9:30. The hours of attendance are from 9:30 to 3:45; of that time one hour is allowed for recreation and dinner.

The Playground is spacious, and contains a Gymnasium and Five Courts.

The School Session is divided into Three Terms. Fee 7s. per Term, to be paid in advance.

Gymnastics and Fixing extra.

#### JUNIOR DEPARTMENT.

##### CLASSES FOR YOUNG BEGINNERS.

These Classes are for Pupils between the ages of Seven and Nine, who are kept separate from the Boys of the Upper School. They have the use of the Playground, but the Hours of Lessons and Recreation are different from those of the older Boys.

The Hours of Attendance are from 9:30 to 3:40, in which time two hours altogether are allowed for recreation and dinner.

Discipline is maintained without corporal punishment. A monthly report of the progress and conduct of each Pupil is sent to his Parent or Guardian.

The School is very near the Gower Street Station of the Metropolitan Railway, and within a few minutes' walk of the Terminus of several other Railways.

Prospectuses and further particulars may be obtained at the Office of the College.

JOHN ROBSON, B.A., Secretary to the Council.

August, 1867.

#### QUEEN'S COLLEGE INSTITUTION for LADIES,

TUNFELL PARK, CAMDEN-ROAD, LONDON.

The next Term OPENS September 18.

Fee for Residents in Finishing School, 60 Guineas

Middle School, 40 Guineas per ann.

Elementary School, 30 Guineas per ann.

Payment reckoned from August.

Govessors-Students received. Certificates granted.

For Prospectuses, with list of Rev. Patrons and Lady Patronesses, address Lady-Principal at the College.

LECTURES on MINERALOGY and GEOLOGY at KING'S COLLEGE, London, are given on Wednesday and Friday Mornings from 9 to 10, by Professor TENNANT, F.G.S. The on Mineralogy begins Friday October 4th, and continues till Christmas. The on Geology commences in January and continues till June. A shorter Course of Lectures on Mineralogy and Geology is delivered on Thursday Evenings, from 8 till 9. These begin on October 10th, and terminate at Easter. Fee, 11. 11s. 6d. Professor Tennant accompanies his Lectures to the Public Museum, and is of great interest in the country.

R. W. JELF, D.B.A., Principal.

LECTURES on POPULAR SCIENTIFIC LECTURES (all Illustrated).—Mr. GEORGE ST. CLAIR, F.G.S., &c., will lecture at

NEW SWINDON	Nov. 26th.
DEVONPORT	Dec. 3rd.
PLYMOUTH	Dec. 4th.
GOSPORT	Dec. 16th.
CLIFTON	Dec. 19th.

And is open to other December engagements in the South and West. List of Lectures on application.—Address Banbury, Oxon.

ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.—THE INTRODUCTORY LECTURE will be given by Mr. HOLMES on TUESDAY, October 1st, at 2 P.M. House-Physicians and House-Surgeons are selected from the Permanent Pupils according to merit. The paid offices of Curator, Registrars, Demonstrator and Obstetric Assistant are offered for competition annually. Perpetual Pupil's Fee, 100 Guineas.

TO PARENTS and GUARDIANS.—A SUPERIOR HOME is offered, in a Picturesque Setting, on the Lancashire Coast, to one or two LADIES willing to reside where their Sisters could have a finished Education, or the entire CHARGE would be taken of a FAMILY whose Parents are going abroad. Inclusive Terms for Pupils, 100 guineas.—Address F. G. M. J. J. 45, Offord-road, Barnsley, N.

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Address H. B., Messrs. Lee & Nightingale, 16, Castle-street, Liverpool.

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Gentleman is desirous of filling up his spare time by COMPILING INDEXES, correcting PROOFS, or any similar work. Disengaged at 430. First-class references.—M. H. 33, Claremont-square, N.

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TO THE PRESS.—An experienced REPORTER, who has had considerable experience on Daily and Weekly Newspapers, desires a RE-ENGAGEMENT.—W. 23, Daily Chronicle, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

TO LITERARY ASSISTANCE.—A Literary

Man, of large and varied experience as an Author and Editor, undertakes to REVISE MANUSCRIPTS, and prepare them for the press, or wholly to compose them from materials supplied to him in any of the languages of Western Europe.—Address T. C. D., 5, Pellett-villas, Wood Green, N.

TO NEWSPAPER PROPRIETORS.—

WANTED, by an experienced Man, a SITUATION as MANAGER of the Printing department of a Country Newspaper.

Would undertake the Sub-editing.—ALPHA, W. Glover, 4, Symond's Inn, Chancery-lane.

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in an old-established NEWSPAPER. About 1,000, to 1,400, required. Weekly Paper.—For particulars apply to Mr. HOLMES, 45, Paternoster-row.

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BOOKSELLERS, &c.—WANTED, a PARTNER, who has

good Knowledge of the Trade, and the Ability to manage a

portion of his daily work. A Partner will derive 500*l.* to 600*l.* a year as his share of the profits. He will have a share in a first-class Business, old established, well known, and open to investigation.—Address A. B., care of Mr. HOLMES, 45, Paternoster-row.

WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS.—A choice

Selection of high-class WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS always ON VIEW at T. McLEAN'S, 7, HAYMARKET, next the Theatre. Private Collections purchased.

SKETCHING from NATURE.—An opportunity is offered to One or Two Ladies of joining a Lady Artist in Study fine scenery, with or without Instruction.

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EDUCATION.—A Lady, long accustomed to

the care of Young Ladies from 15 to 18, offers a SUPERIOR

EDUCATION and a Happy Home. Distinguished references.—Address M. A. Hill, Post-office, Millbrook-road, Southampton.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—Mr.

ALFRED DAVIS, Assistant-Master, has VACANCIES in his

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Terms moderate.—67, Huntingdon-street, Barnsley, N.

MEDICAL SESSION, 1867-68.—RESI-

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a Lecturer at the Metropolitan Medical School (M.A. of Cambridge), with TUITION in Arts and Professional Subjects.—For particu-

lars address M. A. 43, Belize Park, N. W.

INDIAN CIVIL SERVICE.—A Graduate of

Cambridge (in Classical and Mathematical Honours), formerly Master in one of the Public Schools, receives PUPILS,

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ELLESMORE HOUSE, SYDENHAM.—

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LADIES' COLLEGE, THE WOODLANDS,

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The Pupils will RE-ASSEMBLE on MONDAY, September 10th,

when Classes will be formed for French, German, Italian, History,

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The Lectures on Natural History and Chemistry will be resumed in October.

The Woodlands, September, 1867.

#### THE SOCIETY of BIBLIOPHILES.

Subscriptions—Two Guineas and One Guinea per Annum.  
For Rules and Particulars apply to the SECRETARY, Wangford, Suffolk.

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The Woodlands, September, 1867.

XUM

## UNIVERSITY OF ST. ANDREWS.

SESSION 1867-8.

**Chancellor**—His Grace the DUKE of ARGYLL, K.T. LL.D.  
**Vice-Chancellor**—The Very Rev. Principal TULLOCH, D.D.  
**Rector**—JOHN STUART MILL, Esq. LL.D. M.P.

UNITED COLLEGE OF ST. SALVATOR  
AND ST. LEONARD.

The CLASSES in the United College will be OPENED on TUESDAY, the 5th of November, at Two o'clock, when Principal FORBES will deliver an Introductory Address.

Principal.

JAMES DAVID FORBES, D.C.L. LL.D. and F.R.S.S.L & E. First or Junior Humanity—Professor Sharp—Daily at 12, and Tuesday and Thursday at 10 a.m. Second Humanity—Professor Sharp—Daily at 9. Third Humanity—Professor Sharp—Mon., Wed., and Fri., at 11. First or Junior Greek—Professor Campbell—Daily at 1. Second Greek—Professor Campbell—Daily at 10. Third Greek—Professor Campbell—Daily at 11. First or Junior Mathematics—Professor Fischer—Daily at 11. Second Mathematics—Professor Fischer—Daily at 12. Third Mathematics—Professor Fischer—Daily at 11. Rhetoric and English Literature—Professor Baynes—Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 10. Logic and Metaphysics—Professor Baynes—Daily at 1. Moral Philosophy—Professor Flint—Daily at 1. Political Economy—Professor Flint—Tues. and Thurs. at 3. Natural Philosophy—Professor Sharp—Daily at 12, Wed. at 2. Theology—Professor Campbell—Daily at 1. Chemistry with its application to Arts—Professor Heddle—Daily at 11, Tues. and Wed. at 3. Physiology—Professor Bell—Daily at 4. Natural History—Professor Macdonald—Daily at 10. Civil History—Professor Macdonald—Tues. and Thurs. at 9.

## BURSARIES.

The following Bursaries will be Competed for on Friday, the 1st, and Saturday, the 2nd November:—FOUR FOUNDATION (10s. each); MAXWELL (10s. each); and A YEAMAN (6s. 12d.). Also, early in November, ONE BRUCE BURSARY of 30s., open to Students entering the Second Year's Classes. All Bursars must attend at least Two Classes each Session.

## PRIZES.

To be awarded during or at the close of, the Session:—MILLER PRIZES, for Students of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Year; GRAY PRIZE, CARSTAIR MATHEMATICAL PRIZE; DUNCAN MATHEMATICAL PRIZE, BRUCE LOGIC PRIZE.

## SCHOLARSHIPS.

A RAMSAY SCHOLARSHIP will be awarded in November, 1867; a GUTHRIE SCHOLARSHIP in May, 1868; and a BRUCE SCHOLARSHIP in April, 1868.

The names of the Prize Scholarships, and also to Bursaries now Vacant, and in the hands of Private Patrons, will be found in the University Calendar, or may be learned on application to the Secretary of the United College.

## ST. MARY'S COLLEGE.

This COLLEGE will be OPENED by an ADDRESS from the PRINCIPAL, on MONDAY, the 15th of November, at Twelve o'clock.

Principal—The Very Rev. JOHN TULLOCH, D.D.

Systematic Theology—Principal Tulloch [Junior daily at 9]. Senior daily at 10. Divinity and Biblical Criticism—Professor Brown—Daily at 12. Divinity and Church History—Professor Cook—Daily at 11. Hebrew and Oriental Languages—Professor [Junior daily at 12. Mitchell [Senior daily at 12.

## BURSARIES.

The following BURSARIES will be competed for on Friday, the 15th November:—TWO FOUNDATION (10s. each). The WEMYSS BURSARY (2s.).

## PRIZES.

CHANCELLOR'S PRIZE, COOK and MACFARLANE TESTIMONIAL, GRAY PRIZE (see the Calendar). For PRESENTATION BURSARIES (see the Calendar).

## RECTOR'S PRIZE.

Open to Students of both Colleges. 2s. for an ESSAY on 'The Logical and Psychological Questions involved in the Controversy between Nominalism and Realism. For particulars see Calendar.

Before entering the Classes, every Student must Matriculate with the Registrar of the University, at the Library. The fullest information may be found in the University Calendar, price 1s. 6d., by post, 1s. 8d. Blackwood & Sons, Edinburgh. WILLIAM TROUP, Registrar.

St. Andrews, September 1867.

ST. LEONARD'S COLLEGE HALL,  
ST. ANDREWS, FIFESHIRE, N.B.

## Council.

Principal Forbes.  
 Professor Sharp.  
 Professor Fisher.  
 Lieut.-General Moncrieff.

DESIGN FOR THE COLLEGE HALL.—In 1860 an Association was formed for providing a suitable Home for the Men pursuing their studies at the University of St. Andrews. The main design of the Hall, as summed up in the original Prospectus, is to "combine domestic comfort and superintendence with moral and religious training, and the best possible aids to study."

LOCALITY AND ACCOMMODATION.—The locality of St. Andrews is peculiarly favourable for such an undertaking. Its retired situation, removed from most of the tempestuous large towns, the healthiness of its invigorating climate, its extensive Links, affording ample opportunities for exercise and manly games, its ancient and venerable aspect, and its many historic associations—all stand it up with an architectural character peculiar to itself. The sum of £10,000 has been raised, and the erection of a commodious and handsome building now in an advanced state of progress on a beautiful site adjoining the present Hall. For a short time longer the Hall will be conducted in the present premises.

INTERNAL MANAGEMENT.—The Educational Staff consists of a Warden and Resident Tutor, who gives tutorial assistance and direction to the Pupils, all of whom are admitted in the University Classes. The subjects embraced are the usual ones of the Curriculum of Arts—viz., Classics, Mathematical and Mental Philosophy. Modern Languages, Drawing, and Music, may be learned with the aid of competent Masters by special

arrangement. The Wardenship (lately held by J. M. Collier, Esq. B.A., of University College, Oxford), is at present vacant, but a competent scholar will be appointed by the Council during the vacation. The various details of the Hall are superintended by an experienced Steward and Housekeeper, who, for several years, have efficiently performed their duty.

TERMS OF ADMISSION, &c.—Every Student, before admission to the Hall, must produce a certificate of good conduct and diligence from the Master or Tutor under whom he has studied for the last two years. He must be in actual attendance on one or more classes in the University. The charge for Board and Tuition for the Winter Session, not including the sum remitting this year on the 4th of November, is from 60s. to 70s., according to the accommodation desired. Applications for admission, accompanied by the requisite testimonials, should be forwarded early to the address of the Treasurer, W. F. IRELAND, Esq., Commissioner, St. Andrews.

SUMMER SESSION.—The Hall is open during the months of May, June, and July, for the benefit of Students who have joined the Hall during the previous winter, or who are to be students for the succeeding one.

Further information connected with the arrangements of the Hall, or the entrance of Students, may be obtained from Principal FORBES, Professor Sharp, or W. F. IRELAND, Esq.

St. Andrews, September, 1867.

OWENS COLLEGE, MANCHESTER, (in connexion with the University of London).

The SESSION 1867-8 will COMMENCE on MONDAY, the 7th of October, 1867, and terminate on Friday, the 26th of June, 1868.

Principal—J. G. GREENWOOD, B.A. Fell. Univ. Coll. Lond.

## Courses of Instruction.

Classics—Professor J. G. Greenwood, B.A. English Language and Literature—Ancient and Modern History

—Professor A. W. Ward, M.A. Mathematics—Professor Thomas Barker, M.A. Natural Philosophy—Professor William Jack, M.A. Logic—Professor J. Morris Philpott; Political Economy—Prof. W. Stanley Jerome, M.A. F.R.S.

Chemistry (Theoretical and Applied)—Professor H. E. Rose, B.A. Ph.B. F.R.S.

Natural History—Professor W. C. Williamson, F.R.S.

Orificial Languages and Literature; Modern Languages and Literature—Professor T. Theodore.

Drinking—Mr. W. Walker.

Assistant Lecturer in Classics and Mathematics—Mr. A. T. Bentley, B.A.

Chemical Laboratory Assistant—Mr. C. Schorlemmer, F.C.S.

Additional Lectures, on which the attendance is optional and without fees, are given on: 'The Hebrew of the Old Testament,' and on 'The Greek of the New Testament.'

The Lectures on Chemistry are recognized by the University of London for its Medical Degree, by the Royal College of Surgeons, and by the Royal College of Physicians.

The DEPARTMENT of the EVENING CLASSES provides instruction for persons unable to attend the Day Classes in nearly all the subjects comprised in the Day Course of the College.

Various SCHOLARSHIPS, EXHIBITIONS, and PRIZES, are awarded in the College for the promotion of the study of Classics, Mathematics, English, Chemistry, Political Economy, and Natural History.

TWO MATHEMATICAL ENTRANCE EXHIBITIONS, of 15s. each, are offered for competition in October, 1867.

Prospectus for the Classes for the Evening Classes will be forwarded gratis on application to the Registrar.

The 'OWENS COLLEGE CALENDAR' for 1867-8, price 2s. (by post, 2s. 6d.), to be obtained at the College, and from Messrs. Sower, Cornish, Slater, Heywood, and others, Booksellers in Manchester, and at the principal Booksellers in the Course of Study.

The Regulations for the competition for Scholarships, &c., and information respecting the Examinations of the University of London, the Army, the Civil Service, and the preliminary Examinations in Law and Medicine.

The 'SYLLABUS for the EVENING CLASSES,' price 2d. (by post, 4d.), may also be obtained at above.

J. G. GREENWOOD, Principal.

J. HOLME NICHOLSON, Registrar.

OWENS COLLEGE, MANCHESTER.  
SESSION 1867-8.

The Principal will attend at the College for the purpose of admitting Students to the Day Classes on Wednesday, the 2nd, Thursday, the 3rd, and Friday, the 4th, of October, from 11 A.M. to 2 P.M.; and for admitting New Students to the Evening Classes on the 5th and 6th of October, from 11 A.M. to 2 P.M.

J. G. GREENWOOD, Principal.

J. HOLME NICHOLSON, Registrar.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE  
PROMOTION OF SOCIAL SCIENCE.

The ELEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING will be held in BELFAST, from WEDNESDAY the 18th, to WEDNESDAY, the 25th of September, 1867.

## President.

The Right Hon. Lord DUFFERIN and CLANDEBOYE, K.C.B.

## President of Departments.

Jurisprudence—The Hon. Mr. JUSTICE O'HAGAN.

Education—THOMAS ANDREWS, Esq. M.D. F.R.S.

Health—Sir JAMES SIMPSON, M.D. F.R.S.

Economy and Trade—Sir ROBERT KANE, F.R.S.

Papers to be read at the Meeting must be delivered to the General Secretary, on or before the 1st of September.

Members' Tickets entitling to a copy of the TRANSACTIONS, 2s. 6d.; Correspondents' Tickets entitling to a copy of the TRANSACTIONS, 2s.; Associates, 10s.; Ladies, 6s. (not transferable), 15s.

Further particulars as to Railway facilities, Local arrangements and accommodation, Programmes, &c., may be had on application to the General Office, 1, Adam-street, Adelphi; or to the Local Office, Queen's College, Belfast.

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## LITERATURE

*Progress of the Working Class, 1832—1867.*  
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The composition of this volume, equally with its contents, bears witness to the advantages of co-operative labour. Written in part by a man of the library and in part by a man of the workshop, it is at once philosophical and practical,—the fruit alike of theory and experience. Mr. Ludlow is a barrister of Lincoln's Inn, who has made himself known to the working classes as their adviser, and to other than the working classes as their advocate. Mr. Lloyd Jones was a working man in Manchester in the year 1832, and sharpened his pike for a march on London when the Reform Bill was in jeopardy. Between them they have composed a useful and valuable work, recording the progress of legislation, as it bears on the working classes, between 1832 and 1866, the use made of that improved legislation by the working classes, and the advancement of the working classes independently of it, if not in the teeth of many of the older laws which it had not succeeded in repealing. The results chronicled by Messrs. Ludlow and Lloyd Jones may well make them hopeful of further progress in an increasing ratio. The general change in the moral state of the workmen, of which they give us signal instances, may justify them in considering the Sheffield atrocities as "the last flickering out, not the first outbreak, of a baleful flame." Perhaps, in other instances, some will think Messrs. Ludlow and Lloyd Jones too apt to draw their own conclusions, and too intolerant of contrary opinions. In one case, at least, they make excuses where they must feel that there is no need of such leniency. But the lesson they teach the working classes is good on the whole; and they teach a still higher lesson to those who are responsible for the legislation of the country, and the proper development of its chief resources.

An account of the change effected in the thirty years between the first Reform Bill and the second, would be incomplete without a sketch of the state of things which existed at the commencement of that period. Yet the details of such a sketch are extremely painful. A factory population rising at five in the morning, and toiling till evening in an atmosphere loaded with impurities, living chiefly on potatoes, and crowded into dense masses in cottages looking on narrow, unpaved and pestilential streets, made up the cotton-workers of Manchester. Children were employed in the factories from the age of five or six, and worked the same number of hours as their parents. At the end of the day they were often so tired that they went to bed supperless, and were unable either to take off their clothes at night or put them on again in the morning. In the workers of all ages, "in-knee, flat foot, and curvature of the spine" were common; and the first was known as "the factory leg." The senior surgeon of the Leeds Infirmary wrote, "In 1832 I had frequent occasion to pass through a district at noon, when the hands were leaving work for dinner. A large majority of them were pale, thin, emaciated, down-hearted-looking creatures, showing no disposition to mirth and cheerfulness. At the proper age the hips were wide, but sharp and angular, the shoulders pointed, the head not held up, but a considerable stoop."

As was the physical neglect of the workers, so the moral. As late as 1843 an Inspector of Factories reported that in the borough of

Oldham and Ashton, comprising an area of eight miles by four, and a population of 105,000, there was not one public day-school for the poorer children. In the same year he expressed his opinion that the schools provided were so defective that out of 6,872 children within his district who had certificates of school attendance, 4,500 were receiving no education whatever. According to Mr. Lloyd Jones, "an almost general unchastity—the proofs of which are as abundant as they would be painful to adduce—prevailed amongst the women employed in factories, and generally throughout the lowest rank of the working population. But drink was the mainspring of enjoyment."

As for the tyranny of trades unions, which certain writers affect to associate exclusively with the present time, it was formerly far more widely exercised than appears from the recent revelations. "Union men habitually refused to work with non-union men. 'Knobsticks' were often maltreated; murder sometimes being the result. The writer knew two men personally who at different times, and belonging to different trades, now perfectly free from outrages, were rendered totally blind by having vitriol thrown in their faces by men on strike. Similar outrages, but perhaps not often attended with such serious consequences, were of common occurrence." For many of these details Mr. Lloyd Jones draws on his own recollections; but his memory is not unsupported by other, and that official, testimony. The several Commissioners appointed by the Crown collected evidence of so shocking a character, that the authors of the present volume shrink from reproducing it. Yet the sketch they have drawn is sufficient; and we think the few touches we have borrowed from them will prepare our readers to appreciate the change that has been wrought.

Mr. Ludlow, after chronicling the various Acts which have been passed for the benefit of the working classes, sums up their results in four pages. 1832 found the workers in cotton-factories protected from night-work between 8:30 P.M. and 5:30 A.M., those under eighteen restricted to twelve hours' labour, and children under nine forbidden to be employed: 1867 sees the work reduced to ten-and-a-half hours a day, with a Saturday half-holiday; and though the age at which children may be employed has been changed to eight instead of nine, provision is made for the education of youthful workers. 1832 found mines and collieries worked by women and children: 1867 sees female underground labour prohibited, and boy labour placed under important restrictions. 1832 found the working classes deprived of all banking facilities save the private savings bank, and of all associative self-help save the friendly society: 1867 finds them banking with the Government, and provided with loan societies, building societies, industrial or provident societies, and large co-operative associations, some doing a yearly business of a quarter of a million. In 1832 the laws of public health were unknown, the claims of public education were ignored, the newspaper press was a luxury of the rich, windows, soap, bricks and timber were taxed, the stamp duties were so heavy as to exclude the poor from the courts of law, capital could not be associated except by means of partnership, the Post-Office was "a burden on communication," the Poor Laws were "pauperizing and degrading the whole country." What is the state of all these concerns in 1867 is a matter of daily and of universal experience. The man who was blind may be reminded of his former existence if he needs to

be argued into gratitude. It is not necessary to tell him that now he can see.

Naturally enough, the first feeling of those who are represented in Parliament will be one of self-gratulation on hearing what has been done by their chosen legislators. But Mr. Ludlow changes his hand and checks their pride. There is nothing, perhaps, to humiliate them in the proofs that many of the enabling Acts of Parliament were passed to encourage or regulate existing forms of activity; and that others were urged on the Legislature by the working classes themselves, or virtually carried by the arguments of their delegates in the lobby. Yet there is something that reflects far greater credit on the workmen than on the upper classes in the following incident, dating almost eight years after the first Reform Bill:

"It is more difficult to measure the influence which the working classes have exercised over legislation of a more general character, or over general policy. That influence has often been exerted in ways of which few are cognizant. Take the following fact, which has never been mentioned in print, and is probably known to very few but those who, like the writer, were actors in it:—When the first grant of 30,000*l.* was proposed by the Government for educational purposes, it was regarded as the narrow end of a very dangerous wedge by many; especially by those who dreaded the strengthening of any influence not exercised by themselves. A certain section of the Church party in Manchester called a meeting in the Corn Exchange, to oppose the Government proposal. Canon Wray presided, and the Rev. Hugh Stowell was one of the leading speakers. A body of working men, favourable to national education, having taken the matter into consideration, decided that their views should be represented. To this end each of them agreed to go to one of the shops where the tickets for the meeting were to be had, and get as many as they could. In this way they secured considerably above one-half the tickets, and quietly distributed them amongst safe men in certain large workshops, with instructions to attend in their 'go-to-meeting' clothes. They did so; and to the astonishment of the chairman and the speakers, decorously and quietly, without speech-making or amendment-moving, negatived all the resolutions except the vote of thanks to the chairman, and then dispersed and went to their homes as quietly as if nothing particular had happened. So far as the writer is aware, the convenors of the meeting never knew how their intended 'pronouncement' against State-aid to education was defeated. But it was owing to the good sense of a number of working men that Manchester was saved the obloquy of declaring against a measure of which all its then clerical opponents lived to avail themselves,—and lived also, we would fain trust, to feel heartily ashamed of having opposed it."

Another instance of the influence of working men on public opinion is afforded by the appointment of delegates from the Mining Association of Lancashire, Cheshire, and Yorkshire, to urge the passing of a new Mines Inspection Bill when the older Act was expiring. We read that the members of this Association met in conference at Leeds and Ashton-under-Lyne, drew up a petition for an improved Act, appointed a council and a treasurer, provided funds, issued addresses, obtained signatures, and finally sent delegates to London, who persuaded the Home Office to bring in a Bill, and watched the Bill through both Houses. "In the afternoon and evening, often until morning, the delegates were in the House of Commons, explaining their case and reasoning with the Opposition; so that in hot weather and bad atmosphere, after miles of walking and hours of standing, they were so weary as to long for the pit, the pick, and home again."

What has been done in the pit and in the factory is, perhaps, even more instructive than

these direct appeals to the good sense of Parliament. It is a notable fact that, in a late period of ten years, while the agricultural class slightly diminished, the manufacturing class had increased at the rate of one-third of the total increase of the population. The opponents of the factory acts predicted that they would reduce wages and diminish production. The wages of factory hands have increased from ten to twenty per cent. between 1844 and 1860. The number of yards of cotton produced in 1860 was nearly 400 per cent. more than the produce of 1830. There has been an increase of workers to the amount of ninety-two per cent.; and with this, writes an inspector of factories, "all the diseases which were specific to factory labour in 1822 have, as nearly as possible, disappeared. The faces of the people are ruddy, their forms are rounded, their very appearance is joyous." With improved health, the tone of the population has changed. The workers are now educated; they have amusements and occupations; their houses are very often clean and comfortable; and female morality has made a rapid advance. In one Bradford mill, where 500 girls were employed, the average yearly number of illegitimate children did not amount to more than three. Compare this with the time when unchastity was general and "drink the mainspring of enjoyment." There are many tastes growing up among the present workers which make a recurrence to that state of things almost an impossibility. The statistics of readers and borrowers at the great free libraries, the spread of cheap literature, and the—very gradual, we admit, and half-unconscious—purification that goes on, either in the works or the readers, are highly significant. It would be idle to expect that thirty years could bring purity of taste to a population which before that time had not the faintest sense of intellectual pleasures. But we have some hope of its future when we read that the stories which were most popular at an earlier period have been quite supplanted by a better class of writing, and that a re-issue of them seven years ago was an utter failure.

We began with an allusion to co-operative labour, and we will end by referring to its chief manifestations. Of these the Rochdale Equitable Pioneers' Store deserves conspicuous mention, as will appear from the terms in which Messrs. Ludlow and Lloyd Jones speak of its system:—

"Beyond all question, however, the first true beginning of the co-operative store movement was the Rochdale Equitable Pioneers' Store, and the chief ground of its success was the admirable plan upon which it started—a plan which cannot be too often stated or too closely studied. The great difficulty with the first stores was to bring custom, and failing in this, they broke down. In Rochdale, however, they said to the public, 'Invest in the trading capital here, and you shall have five per cent. on your money, inasmuch as we bind ourselves not to put it to risk by speculative trading, no credit being given. In the next place, whatever remains as profit, after paying interest on capital, will be divided as bonus on the amount of money spent in the store by each member.' The advantages of this proposal soon began to make themselves apparent. Presuming a hundred men invested twenty shillings each, one shilling each would be due to them at the expiration of the year, as five per cent. interest on their separate investments. They had each done precisely the same as investors, and each was justly entitled to the same reward. But custom is as necessary as capital for the production of profit; and in contributing this all-important element, they almost necessarily differed from each other. The family income made a difference; the number in the family made an important difference. In fact, a poor workman with a large family was a far more

profitable customer than a well-paid artisan with a small one. These poorer men, therefore—the most difficult to move, because usually the most encumbered by debt—were the most directly appealed to by the new plan. There was no interest in buying inferior articles and selling them at high prices, no temptation to adulterate anything sold, no inducement to give short weight or measure, inasmuch as anything taken from the consumer by fraud would go back to him again as increased bonus. And as everything purchased had to be paid for in ready money, the whole frightful system of indebtedness, which, up to that time, crushed the people, must disappear."

The store began operations in the year 1844, started with twenty-eight members, and as many pounds of capital. In the year 1866 the members amounted to 6,246, and the funds to 99,897. Business was done to the extent of 249,122*l.*, and the profits realized were 31,931*l.* The "North of England Wholesale Co-operative Society, Limited," is a Manchester Association, which has been in existence two years, and also does business at the yearly rate of a quarter-of-a-million. The Wolverhampton Plate-Lock Society was founded by seven men, in 1864, with 13*l.* capital. The masters did their utmost to crush it, for it came into existence during a strike; and they forced down prices to such an extent that the Society, for a time, lost 1*l.* a week on its sales. Yet in August last it had sixty men at work, produced 100*l.* worth of goods weekly, and sent a case of plate-locks to the Dudley Exhibition, which were put on a par with those of Messrs. Chubb and Cottrell. So, too, in London, the Working Gilders' Co-operative Association began with 8*l.* capital, and last year did over 2,500*l.* of business. What can be done by associations in the way of charity is shown by the South Yorkshire Miners' Association, which, "the second day after the Oaks Colliery explosion, was able to send its trustees to the bank for 1,500*l.*, to supply the wants of the poor widows and orphans who were bereaved by that catastrophe." But it would be vain for us even to attempt to exhaust the various aims and achievements of all these societies. The reader who would know more about them must turn to Messrs. Ludlow and Lloyd Jones.

*Imaginism and Rationalism: an Explanation of the Origin and Progress of Christianity.*  
By John Vickers. (Trübner & Co.)

THE writers for and against revelation in our day have generally a slow kind of procedure and a cautious mode of conclusion: they seem to respect each other's prowess, and fight, as in the siege of Sebastopol, behind works which are pushed forwards until they touch. We miss the old Leslie with his contemptuous "short and easy method"; we miss Paine and Volney, with their implied "Bless you, my dear fellow, I'll show you the whole trick of it in a cigar and a half." But, praise be thanked, these amusing prize-fighters are not quite extinct: Mr. Vickers is the man who will make it all clear. Imaginism, you see, is imagination-work and superstition: rationalism is pure reason and Vickers. He settles it after the manner of Sir Callaghan O'Brallaghan: "That, my dear Sir Archy, is the Scotch account, which never speaks truth, because it is always partial; but my account must be the true one, for it was written by an Irish poet of my own family, Shemus Turlough Shanagan O'Brallaghan." But Mr. Vickers's dear relation is himself and nobody else.

Mr. Vickers starts, as a man ought to do in treating of revelation, with his notion of God: who is not any of the miracle gods, but the God of Nature; not any original abstract individual

mind, but the Eternal Soul of the eternal Universe. With a God over all who cannot, must not, shall not, work a miracle, it would be easy to dismount Christianity. But Mr. Vickers does not want so strong a supposition: he can explain the pretended miracles his own way so easily that there might be a moral Deity who hates a lie, common to him and to doctors of divinity. All his atheism, or pantheism, or whatever he calls it, would be dead loss to a rational man of his *a priori* power, but is not so to him; for by some curious turn of inference he is prepared to believe what is written, if he could only set up a Deity accordingly.

"If we believed in a wizarding fire-god, in the Jehovah whom the Hebrew priests are said to have carried from place to place in a gilded ark, we should not hesitate to credit, on the authority of the Scriptures, all the wonders that were performed in the wilderness." This well-read man imagines that God is said in the Pentateuch to have been carried about in the ark!

His learning is of this stamp throughout, though mistakes as gross as this are not many. Mr. Vickers's knowledge of the things of his own day is of the same calibre. He tells us that Prof. Adams, from the irregularities of Uranus, conjectured that there must be some exterior planet in conjunction with him; that, on this theory being put before the world, M. Leverrier (1) turned his powerful telescope in the direction indicated, and discovered the great planet Neptune! And this is the genius who is to explain the rise of Christianity, which he does in a way much resembling his account of the discovery of Neptune. A very brief account of his explanation will do. Jesus, a worthy Essene, was under certain "tutors" who formed the "Messianic Confederacy." He desired martyrdom; "the operation was undoubtedly painful to him, but it was spiritually agreeable, and he would have been extremely disappointed if those who had undertaken it had not succeeded in its accomplishment." He was killed in reality, and one of the "confederacy" personated him after his death: for you must understand that the apostles were not in the secret; they were genuine dupes. The confederates took care to contrive that the circumstances should fulfil prophecies; two of them personated Moses and Elias in the Transfiguration; some of them assassinated Judas, &c. There is more than four hundred pages of rather small print, full of trash nearly as ridiculous as this. There is none of Paine's sarcasm to enliven it; none of Volney's enthusiasm to dignify it. We have, however, a notion that every book has its appointed readers. When Lord Chesterfield complained of the want of cleanliness in the dinner at an inn, the waiter said, "You must eat a peck of dirt before you die!"—"True!" said Lord Chesterfield, "but there is no occasion to eat it all at once." If any gentleman desire to read his peck of nonsense all in one book, we recommend Mr. Vickers on Christian strategy, or, as his learning calls it, *stratagery*.

This gentleman has whiled us out of a longer article than he deserves; but we like his ignorance: his account of Adams and Leverrier is enough to good-humour the reading of four hundred pages. We feel rather afraid of being supposed enemies to religion; for only such persons can feel much interested in exposing Mr. Vickers, or in repudiating him; he is in their ranks, and he employs himself in misrepresenting general orders. For ourselves, we really feel no inclination to abolish Christianity: and we are quite clear that, were it precisely what Mr. Vickers says it is, we would rather

have it. It is likely that the time of the centuries will be whole, and the nation is not that which is in the solution. In fact, the university year is over. That the theory of the planet Neptune is a good one, and which is the true one, is a question which has been decided. All we know is that it is not the one which is now in the sky. That the theory of the planet Neptune is a good one, and which is the true one, is a question which has been decided. All we know is that it is not the one which is now in the sky.

have it than anything which Mr. Vickers is likely to offer in exchange. But it will last our time: Mr. Vickers himself says it will be centuries before the "old religious charms" are as universally discredited as the medicine of the Rosicrucians. But he admits that "imaginistic moral remedies" have been of great use, and "faith in them still soothes the griefs and heals the sorrows of a vast majority of mankind, to whom the remedial power of rationalism is wholly unintelligible." We end with the recognition of a good quality in our author: there is modesty—almost humility—in his belief that it will take centuries to upset faith in God, in spite of the appearance of the universal solvent which is now set before the eyes of man.

Fifty years ago, this book would have been prosecuted by the Attorney General, and so would not have been quite extinct even now. In fifty weeks—if not days—of this age of universal permission it will be as dead as last year's serial novel of the penny excitement school.

*Thames Valley Out-Fall, and Interception of the Kingston District Drainage.* Plan proposed by J. W. Grover, C.E., and E. Wragge, C.E. (Longmans & Co.)

A glance at the title of this pamphlet may suggest that the subject of which it treats is a matter of local interest, affecting only those who dwell in that part of the valley of the Thames which lies a few miles above London. A little consideration, however, will show that the diversion of drainage from the Thames is a subject of far wider interest. It affects directly all who dwell in the metropolis, and indirectly all who live within reach of any important stream.

The great work of the purification of the Thames in London is now nearly completed, so far as it can be effected by the diversion of the drainage of London itself. It is necessary, however, to the perfection of this work that the towns and villages which lie on the river banks above London should be compelled to divert their sewage; and accordingly, by statutes passed in the session of 1866 and in the last session of Parliament, the Conservators of the Thames have been empowered to require works to be completed for this purpose within three years or any less time not being under twelve months. The district comprised in the plan now before us is on a part of the river where the stream is strong, and the greater portion of it is beyond the influence of the tide. The effects of the tide on the remaining parts (between Richmond and Teddington lock) is but slight, and the consequence is, that all impurities are quickly carried down to the neighbourhood of the metropolis, where they are swung backwards and forwards by the tide. We have the authority of Vice-Chancellor Wood for saying that the drainage of Kingston into the Thames does not create any serious nuisance in the neighbourhood, and that there is no immediate prospect of its doing so.

It is, then, in the interest of the metropolis that the statutes which we have above referred to were passed, and the Conservators are clearly not inclined to allow the great work to stand still by reason of any lack of energy on their parts. Notices have, within the last week, been served on most of the places now draining into the Thames, requiring them to divert their sewage within thirteen months, being only one month more than the minimum time which could be named by the Conservators.

Heavy penalties will be incurred if the work is not done. We presume that the time will be

prolonged if serious efforts are made to comply with this notice, but it is clear that no time is to be lost.

A drainage conference composed of representatives of those parishes which are fortunate enough to be under the management of local boards, has for some time been sitting at Kingston. We are not acquainted with the proceedings of this conference, but we can hardly be wrong in supposing that any difficulty which the members may feel arises rather from the multitude than from the paucity of counsellors.

The best mode of disposal of sewage is a problem which is clearly not answered by the plan adopted in the metropolis of sending off the sewage to pollute a less important part of the river; and possibly the rough coercion exercised by Parliament in this case may be the means of solving it.

There will, no doubt, as in all matters of this kind, be plenty of respectable scientific evidence in favour of every plan which is brought forward. Those on whom the important duty of carrying out this work is cast, will have to act as a jury, and having heard all that is to be said, must judge for themselves, without attaching too much weight to the opinions of any philosopher, however celebrated he may be.

Most of the plans which have recently been brought prominently before the public appear to us to be open to one serious objection—namely, that they involve the use of cesspools. No doubt a cesspool could be so constructed and so placed as to be quite inoffensive; though probably, if it is to be so made as to be frequently emptied without trouble, this would not be an easy matter. But is it probable that in thousands of cesspools some will not be defective or improperly placed? No man can trace the amount of evil that may arise from one bad cesspool. This would appear to be an insuperable objection to the Milan system of drainage, where cesspools are used, and the sewage is removed by means of carts, which are air-tight barrels, in which (the air being exhausted) the sewage is sucked up, and is thus removed. In West Worthing, the sewage is collected and removed by means of a closed portable filter. Neither the Milan, nor the West Worthing, nor the Hague sewer-cart, can, however, be a pleasant thing to meet; and any system by which the sewage is got rid of, once for all, must be vastly more agreeable than either of these.

Then there is the earth-closet system, in operation on Baron Rothschild's estate at Lancaster. The strongest argument put forward in favour of this plan seems to be that it possesses a kind of "divine right," being the plan directed by Moses to be pursued by the Israelites in the Wilderness (13 Deut. 12, 13). The force of this argument may not be thought very great if we consider that no other plan of disposing of sewage was open to Moses. He could not in the Wilderness make any drainage works; though undoubtedly he was not hampered, as we are, by any lack of waste land for the purpose.

The plan before us has been prepared with considerable care, and it is free from the objections which we have adverted to. It proposes to provide an outfall sewer for all places on the banks of the Thames from Chertsey to Richmond Hill, being a distance of about sixteen miles. This is to be effected by means of four lines of intercepting sewers, all of which are to meet at a pumping station in Ham fields. Sewer No. 1 starts at the Middlesex side of Chertsey Bridge, and passes by Sunbury, Hampton and Hampton Wick, and Teddington and Ham. No. 2 commences at Richmond Hill, and passes by Petersham to Ham. No. 3 runs from West

Moulsley, by Thames Ditton, into No. 1 at Hampton Wick, and No. 4 is from the north side of Kingston to Ham. The minimum fall in these sewers would be 2 ft. 9 in. per mile; while in the metropolitan sewers there is, in some cases, a fall of only 2 ft. per mile. The connexion of places on the opposite side of the river is effected by means of syphons.

Having got the sewage to Ham fields, the next thing is to get it away again; for near the "rapidly-improving parish of Teddington" utilization of sewage is out of the question.

This is to be effected by means of three pumping-engines of 80 horse-power each, with stand-pipes having a mean altitude of 100 feet. The sewage having been received into a reservoir, and the solid matter removed by coarse filtering trays, the liquid would flow along an iron main to the neighbourhood of East Bedfont, distance of five miles. Here it would pass into another reservoir, and thence flow, by gravitation, upon farms to be leased for the purpose of irrigation. The soil at East Bedfont is well adapted for filtration; the land now lets at an agricultural price, and as there are powdermills in the neighbourhood, it is not likely to be in request as building land.

The population of the district for which the outfall sewers are provided is about 60,000; but the works are adapted for 100,000. The rateable value of the property is 375,700*l.*, and in some parts is rapidly increasing.

The outlay is stated, in what seems to be a very careful estimate, at 130,000*l.*, and the total annual working expenses, including a sinking fund of 1,000*l.* a year for repayment of this original outlay, and of interest upon the debt at four and a half per cent., is 11,665*l.*

To this expense we presume that the numerous water-works which take their supply from this district would be required to contribute largely; and as the work is really to be done in the interests of the metropolis, we think that "the great city" should also bear its part.

It is by no means certain, however, that when the scheme is in full operation, any rate will be necessary to meet these expenses. A considerable return as rent from the irrigated district must be received; and the authors show that if the return per acre is as large as that obtained at Croydon, the rate would be removed and a small surplus realized.

The present plan could, by an extension which would be easy and inexpensive, be made to comprise the important district of Wimbledon, which now, in part at least, drains into the Thames; and it could be modified so as to adopt the new system of subsoil irrigation, if that system is found successful.

The details of this scheme do not appear to present any engineering difficulties. They are set forth with some minuteness in the pamphlet before us, which is written in a manner that inspires confidence in the business-like qualifications of its authors.

We are convinced, as we have said, that this matter of drainage affects every place within a moderate distance of any important stream. The present state of things, where making a drain or getting rid of manufacturing refuse usually leads to a Chancery suit, is—speaking from a lawyer's point of view—too good to last. Some general law like that now applied to the Thames must soon be established throughout the country, and in all future operations the plan which may be adopted for the disposal of the sewage of the Thames Valley must stand forth prominently as an example or a warning.

*The Enterprising Impresario.* By Walter Maynard. (Bradbury, Evans & Co.)

*American and Italian Cantatrici; or, a Year at the Singing Schools of Milan.* By Lucius (Newby.)

'The Enterprising Impresario' is a genuine history. It shows what it is to be a manager, to hold sovereign sway and masterdom over the bright beings who appear behind the footlights as Aminas, Lucias, Normas, Almavivas, Barbières, and other inhabitants of the realms of dramatic music, who are shown to us in their genuine personalities as they live, move, and have to contend with the ordinary life of this world. The book is, indeed, the history of the doings and adventures of a company of operatic stars of the first magnitude, who, under the conduct of an enterprising impresario, were the first who went on musical tours in Great Britain. The advent of these notabilities is still matter of lively recollection in all the towns they visited. The visits of singers and actors are now become matters of frequent recurrence; but the wonder and delight with which they were regarded when first brought into the provinces gave their journey an aspect of romance which can never return. In the beginning, concerts only were attempted, and sometimes achieved under difficulties not less real for being whimsical. Here is a story of Grisi:—

"In those days, enterprising Impresarios used to engage half-a-dozen singers to form a concert-party, buy two travelling-cabriages to carry them about in, and so take them to those towns that were nearest to one another. Grisi's first visit to the provinces was made after that fashion; and I have heard her describe the pleasures, pains, and penalties of the road: how, on one occasion, the post-boys of the carriage she was in took her from Chatsworth to Matlock, instead of to Sheffield. They had lost sight of the carriage which preceded them, and had mistaken their instructions. Grisi alighted at Matlock with her travelling companions; there were no signs of the rest of the party, and none whatever of any concert going to take place. 'Che fare, per Bacco!' The landlord of the inn was at a loss to know what to do with the foreigners, none of whom spoke English. After a great deal of dumb show and pantomime, Grisi opened her desk, and discovered that the concert that evening was to be at Sheffield. 'Sheffield,' she said to the landlord, 'Sheffield is a very long way off; this is Matlock;' on hearing which, Grisi understood enough English to know a mistake had been made, and getting into the carriage again, ordered the postilions to drive as hard as they could to Sheffield. Whether it was for 'her siller bright or for the winsome lady,' Grisi does not say; but after great exertions on the part of the boys and horses, the travellers reached Sheffield just in time to prevent the public from being dismissed without hearing the *Diva*. Tamburini and Benedict had done their utmost to prevent complete disappointment—the baritone having sung several songs and got into a very bad temper at the absence of the soprano, who was then much younger than some of us remember her, and full of mischief. Tamburini declared it was a practical joke, and had told the unhappy Impresario he would sing no more, having, in fact, exhausted his concert repertoire, when the long looked-for absentees came into the green-room, and volunteered to finish the concert in their travelling costume with one condition,—that time should be allowed them to eat a sandwich."

Here is an interview with a *prima donna*, and a sketch view of a troop of eminent *artistes* getting under way:—

"I was requested to escort the *prima donna* of the party, whose acquaintance I had made abroad, and on the morning we were to leave London, went, for that purpose, to the hotel at which she was staying. The lady had arrived from the Continent the evening before, and had hardly recovered from the effects of the sea passage; neither had

her companions, one of whom she was nursing tenderly, while the other was being fed by a careful attendant. The lady was at breakfast in her bonnet and shawl."

In a tone of plaintive resignation she announced herself ready to start; but her companions were still suffering, and must finish their breakfasts. These companions were—

"'Pauvre Bibi,' wretched, half-shaved French poodle, and Jacko, nothing more nor less than a pet monkey, that the charming *soprano* was nursing with all the affection she would have lavished upon a child. Jacko was jealous of his mistress, and showed his teeth to any one who dared approach her. Bibi was the more audacious of the two, and, either from sympathy or antipathy, indulged himself (or perhaps, more correctly, herself) in tearing the trousers of all strangers. \* \* I had been seated opposite the *prima donna* some five minutes, making myself as agreeable as it was possible to be at that early hour of the morning, when suddenly I felt a sharp pinch just above the ankle, and looking down, found Bibi had forsoaken (or her) *déjeuner* in favour of my leg. \* \* 'Bibi! Bibi! méchant enfant, que fais-tu donc?'—'Mais, madame, il m'a pris par la jambe,' I replied for Bibi, and tried to release my leg by a violent effort, but he (or she) hung on to my trousers, and would not let go until Madame came round and seized him adroitly by the tail. The movement the lady made excited Jacko, who was still in her arms, and who, supposing me to be the cause of the commotion, made a grab at my hair, of which he succeeded in pulling out a quantity. \* \* Bibi, Jacko, and the *dame de compagnie* were put into a cab. I followed in a Hansom, contemplating at my leisure the pleasure that such delightful companions as the two pet quadrupeds would surely afford the touring-party we were going to join. The lady's luggage, consisting of three boxes, each large enough for an Aztec family of moderate pretensions to live in—those gigantic trunks that are made only in France,—bonnet-boxes, and Bibi and Jacko's sleeping apartments, were more than enough for cab No. 3. We reached the station ten minutes before the train was to start, and found some of the party had arrived before us. The contralto, with her mamma, (a shrivelled-up old lady) was introduced with much ceremony to the soprano. The tenor—dressed in a very new travelling suit, with a heavy watch-chain, from which hung 'charms' of every fanciful description, a white silk neck-tie carelessly (but what study in the carelessness!) fastened by a gold ring set with precious stones, straw-coloured kid gloves, and the very tightest of patent leather boots—came up and shook hands with the lady, being, of course, saluted by Bibi and clutched at by Jacko. The basso—a German—in his native country must have heard strange stories of an English climate, for he was smothered in furs. He had a fur coat, a fur cap, fur boots, and was in every way fitted out for a severe Siberian winter. He seemed, however, to enjoy his furs, and to like being looked at, as he was to his heart's content, by the wondering passers-by. With the luggage we had a huge case, containing what one of the party called his 'baby.' It was large enough to hold any number of babies, and was the case of a double bass. This unusual travelling companion caused the railway porters no little diversion, and the cabmen a reasonable pretext for a double fare. It was within five minutes of the time of starting, and the violinist and conductor had not yet made their appearance. The Impresario got anxious. He paced the pavement outside the booking-office impatiently, looking with pardonable curiosity into every cab that came up. He returned to the platform to see that those who had arrived were seated in the carriage reserved for them. Presently the violin followed him. It was carried by a most remarkable-looking little Italian, short in stature, of sallow complexion, with hair somewhat *à la Paganini*, and prodigious eyes, of which he made good use to give expression to every word he said—they rolled about like two highly-polished balls of jet—a genius in appearance, as he was in reality, for it was no other than Camillo Sivori. 'Just in time,' said the Impresario.

—'Si,' said Sivori, 'sono sempre a tempo.'—'But where's the *maestro*?' asked the tenor from inside the carriage.—'Faga il cabbe,' replied Sivori. The Impresario went in search of the conductor, who had been left by the celebrated violinist to pay the cab, and found him in angry discussion with the cabman, who loudly demanded double that which had been offered him. The dispute was settled to the satisfaction of all concerned, by the Impresario paying the fare himself, and the whole of the party were got into the train just as it was set in motion."

The sketch of the journey, with Bibi and Jacko as supernumeraries, is droll, but too long for extract. Great was the astonishment of the hotel porters, who were in waiting for the company, at the aspect of the luggage, piled up on the platform, as it was taken out of the van, which, with the double bass towering in the midst, looked like the belongings of a family of giants, and blocked up for some time the entrance to the hotel. It was no joke to be the commander of such a company. In addition to the ordinary difficulties, there occurred not a few for which no programme had been laid down. The basso, with all his furs, became enamoured of the contralto, and confided his feelings to the sympathetic impresario. "I leave her to immortality," said he; but his courtship was not a happy one. It died of a practical joke. On the journey next day he had determined to make a declaration to the object of his affections, and took advantage of a long tunnel for the purpose; but as the train emerged suddenly into daylight, he was seen ardently kissing the delicate hand of the tenor, which had been mischievously substituted for that of the lady of his love. The shouts of laughter with which this wicked joke was greeted put an abrupt period to his passion, and he enveloped himself in silence and his sables. A good temper and an inexhaustible fund of good nature seem to have been the chief qualities required, with skill, tact and firmness in equal proportions; in short, the manager of a travelling troop of *artistes* would need an unlimited supply of all the cardinal virtues. The impresario, Bradshaw in hand, and a map before him, has marked out a most charming tour, quite a *voyage de luxe*, having skilfully arranged all his arrivals and departures without any unnecessary fatigue or loss of time, and writes letters to his correspondents in the various towns announcing his intentions. In a few days he receives his answers, and finds his skilful combination of times and seasons ruthlessly overturned. Every town insists upon having incompatible days—Plymouth desiring to see them on the 16th, whilst in Glasgow or Edinburgh the 17th seems the only day on which a concert can be given with any prospect of success. The dullness of trade, or a strike, or a panic, or some other unlooked-for commercial accident, may at any moment turn the expedition into a disastrous failure. Mr. Maynard gives lively and amusing pictures of this strolling artist life; his sketches are vivid and always good-natured, which makes them pleasant to read. We might find many tempting extracts, but our readers had better get the book for themselves. In the first part Mr. Maynard has collected some curious statistics of the early plays and theatres in England. He is not so much accustomed to making books as to managing actors; but the materials of an entertaining book are found in his pages.

The second work at the head of our article, 'American and Italian Cantatrici,' professes to be an account of a most wonderful singer, whose voice is capable of doing the work of a whole opera in itself. The Preface assures us that Marietta and her voice really exist, and are ardently hoping to obtain a foreign engagement. If only the half of what is said of them be true, we

recommend impresarios to go, like wise men, in search of such a star; we doubt not but *Lucius* can give them the requisite directions. There is spirit and truth in the descriptions of poor Marietta's early struggles and poverty and the *maestro's* noble enthusiasm for his art; but the general tenor of the book is vulgar. The account of the American family and the singing daughter who desires to become a *prima donna*, paying for that honour regardless of expense, is simply intolerable. The book evinces cleverness on the part of the author, but the total absence of good taste makes it unpleasant to read.

## NEW NOVELS.

*Rosa and Flora: a Romance.* By Lydia Maria Child. 2 vols. (Routledge.)

*A Romance of the Republic.* By L. Maria Child. (Boston, Ticknor & Fields; London, Trübner & Co.)

Mrs. Child has apparently invented a curious compromise to avoid an imputation of literary dishonesty. Two novels have reached us together—quite distinct to all appearances; published at the same time—one in London and the other in Boston; one called 'Rosa and Flora,' and the other 'A Romance of the Republic': one in two volumes, the other in one volume; both, so far as we are able to judge by a rapid comparison, literally word for word the same. As far, then, as we ourselves are concerned, we have no reason to complain. We are saved from the risk of noticing twice a work which, though well worth noticing once, is not good enough to deserve more; and we are enabled to warn our readers against a similar mistake. But it is difficult to imagine any sufficient reason for giving to the two editions different names; and whether the variation is the act of publisher or author, there are manifest reasons against it.

However, apart from this question, we have not a word, even of complaint, to say against Mrs. Child's tale. If we had one, it would only be that it is happily a little late in the day. Anti-slavery fiction, and pictures of horrors of which the civilized world has now finally purified itself, may serve to deepen the gratification of victory, or to increase the grudge of the beaten, but can by no possibility do any other good. The only good remaining to be done—the adaptation of persons and things to the new circumstances—is obviously far beyond the reach of a work of imagination, however good and natural it may be, especially when its only moral is that the opposite side were foolish and brutal. Mrs. Child's story, then, must not be regarded as having any moral at all. She takes a text, but not to preach a sermon,—only to give herself an excuse and opportunity for amusing us. And she succeeds very creditably. The adventures of the two young Octoors, who give their name to the English edition, are quite enough above the average to fit them for the post of heroines in a couple of volumes; and their biographer tells their adventures quite pleasantly enough to claim the right of introducing them to the public notice. Once looked at in the neutral light of novel-reading only, the book may be got by all, including Southerner and Abolitionist alike, with the certainty that its interest is up to its style above, and its improbabilities below, the average of modern romances. Its author has manifestly no ambition for even trying to draw strong characters, and we are not sure she is not wiser as an artist not to try, than to try and fail. At least she makes up for the deficiency by giving us some charmingly bright ideas of the poetry of Spanish domesticity, the gloomy complications of the laws of slave-

America, and the charms of girlish innocence. And when any novel now-a-days gives us charming ideas of any sort whatever, we are grateful to its author. If novels could be divided into, say, six classes, and ranked in order of merit from number one downwards, it would be far easier for us to help those who use our pages with a view to their circulating library list. We should place 'Rosa and Flora' high up in class four.

*The Curate's Friend: a Story.* By Mrs. J. C. Woods, Adelaide, South Australia. (London, Whitfield, Green & Son.)

No ordinary novel-reader has any idea of the immense proportion of novels that come into a critic's hands which deserve neither praise nor blame. The entire absence of all claims to either is the only noticeable point in, at least, three out of four. To blame would be unjust, because there is nothing whatever to condemn. To praise is impossible, because there is nothing whatever to admire. The most that can be said against them is that nobody can by any possibility say anything at all against them. The best that can be said for them is, that, like Preston Pans beer, they are a very harmless provision for the thirst of the public.

Under this head comes 'The Curate's Friend.' Short, simple, perfectly innocent, and sometimes almost pretty in its perfect dearth of any kind of Art, it is just one of those works which serve the purpose when all that is wanted is a contrivance for thinking of nothing. A languid relic of a long London season may possibly send it back to her book-club under the delusion that it has given her a pleasant morning in the summer-house or a pleasant evening at the open window. Even she would not exactly recommend it. If it lies beside her on the table, and anybody wants to bask through a similar hour or two, she may very likely avail herself of its existence; but even the author, in her wildest dreams of ambition, can hardly picture anybody doing more. She has evidently written and published with a view to such days as these, when to "take off one's skin and sit in one's bones," with a fifth-rate novel in one's skeleton fingers, is most people's notion of real comfort; and thoughtfully aiming at nothing, she has achieved a glorious success; for her book is literally perfect as a work of art of this peculiar kind. Not a jot or tittle of its ingredients rouses one into heat of any kind—interest or indignation. There is a class of novels that make a reader angry with their irritating twaddle—angry with himself for reading them, and with the writer for writing them. 'The Curate's Friend' avoids all appearance of such an evil. Its very simplicity is not offensive. It is the simplicity of a baby's prattle, and not of an idiot's jabbering; in other words, manifestly the work of a lady who, not understanding the *ars Braddoniana*, does not attempt experiments in it, and not that of one who, without the faintest right to dream of success, aspires to fine writing and impossible complications. Its indescribable native flavour is its one solitary characteristic; and the travels of the curate's friend over half the habitable globe in search of his old love are illustrated by a succession of caricatures which the Australian parentage of the book easily explains and excuses. Its author evidently knows as little of the "swells" who, she tells us, are "not indigenous to South Australia," as of the British snob, whom she christens Primley, or the "lovely girl in a ballroom . . . developing into an angry woman, with a stick in one hand and a small writhing specimen of humanity in the other,—very red in the face, too, with her exertions!"

*North of the Tweed; or, Lorance Langton: his Life, Incidents, and Adventures in Scotland.* By Daniel Crowberry. 3 vols. (Newby.)

We have been highly amused with this book. Not that the author intended it to be funny; far from it. Indeed, it is the author's perfect unconsciousness of saying anything humorous that makes us laugh so. The book is written with such profound gravity and self-complacency, that what would otherwise be insufferable becomes very amusing. We remember a parallel case. Some time ago there was an amateur representation of 'Macbeth,' to which the numerous friends of the actors were compelled to go, with anything but lively anticipations of enjoyment. To their delight, what was expected to be a most tedious affair turned out a perfect success. Macbeth was so wonderfully "got up," and delivered his speeches with such preternatural solemnity, and was evidently so delighted with himself and his acting, that the audience roared again. Every syllable he uttered caused shouts of laughter, much to his astonishment; but as he still went on in the same style, he, unwittingly, kept up the fun to the end of the entertainment. By these means, a badly-acted tragedy became a most enjoyable farce. So here, thanks to our appreciation of the humorous, a tedious novel is made really amusing. Were it not for this, we fear our criticism would be more severe. As it is, the author is perfectly safe. We cannot find much fault with a book that has made us laugh so.

The author says, in the third volume of 'North of the Tweed,' that it is not a novel at all. Perhaps this is some peculiar fun of Mr. Crowberry; some joke known only to a few. For if it is not a novel, what is it? We really cannot say. It certainly is not a book of travels, nor a book of anecdotes. It is, perhaps, best described as an odd and not very agreeable mixture of the three things. The first volume, so far as we can judge, was apparently intended for a novel. At any rate, there is some appearance of a tale; but to the reader's surprise and our amusement, this story comes to an abrupt termination at the end of the volume. The second volume has no reference to the first—nor, in fact, to anything at all in particular. The hero of the first volume certainly appears in the second; but that is the only connexion between them. It puzzles us to make out what Mr. Crowberry intended the second volume to be. We have thought over it, and as a puzzle it is amusing; but it beats us: we cannot understand what it means. It is such a curious medley that it must be read to be appreciated. We warn the reader though that the only entertainment he can hope to find is in wondering at the incongruities and pomposity of style; beyond this he will be bored. In the third volume the author takes another start; and having satisfied his taste for meandering in the second volume, rather inclines to give his audience another story. This intention, however, is not strictly carried out, for the meandering continues, at divers intervals, throughout the last volume; but still there is some kind of reference to a tale, for which the reader will feel grateful or not according to his taste.

Even the author shows, once in the course of his work, symptoms of an idea that it is not quite *en règle* to drag into his novel a stray anecdote of about eighty pages or so when it has not the remotest connexion with what precedes and follows it, and when Mr. Crowberry himself owns that it is not amusing. This remarkable "once" occurs at page 172 of the third volume. We specify it thus particularly as it possesses a certain interest for the philosophical critic. It proves that even the

most eccentric author has occasional glimpses of right and wrong in reference to his novel. Just as the most depraved criminal occasionally exhibits signs of penitence and remorse, so the author at this remarkable page 172 shows that even he knows what crimes he has been guilty of as a novel-writer. This is what Mr. Crowberry says:—

"We are now engaged in writing a novel (!), it would become our first consideration to choose or invent such incidents for our work as seemed best calculated to sustain an uniform interest or stimulate the curiosity of those who honoured us with their favour. Such may be termed the high or popular road of romance. But as we are occupied in recording a succession of humble events, either relating personally to the subject of our narrative or coming directly under his observation in the course of his rambling life, we are constrained to deal with matters as they come before us, commonplace as they may seem. The present incident . . . possesses nothing in itself to commend it to the special attention of the reader, or even to a place in our pages—nothing beyond the actual fact of its existence, and of having attained considerable notoriety at the time of its occurrence."

Observe in the beginning of this quotation how the guilty author tries to excuse himself while confessing his crime. How natural this is! No man ever acknowledged himself guilty of a crime without a reservation. The confession always runs, "I know I did it, but—" and the "but" clearly proves it was some one else's fault that the crime in question was committed. But what does Mr. Crowberry mean by saying, "Were we now engaged in writing a novel?" Really when we listen to excuses like this, we feel quite inclined to lose our good humour and be severe. How can Mr. Crowberry be so cool as to say that he is "constrained to deal with matters as they come before him, commonplace as they may seem"? Who constrains him? Certainly not the public. In fact, we cannot see how an Englishman can be compelled to write a book, though he had even contracted to do so. The Court of Chancery itself would never decree specific performance of a contract to write a book. It may be different in Scotland; but even if it be so, the Courts in Scotland ought clearly not to have "constrained" Mr. Crowberry to publish his book in England. There must be some mistake somewhere. Seriously, Mr. Crowberry is in this dilemma, either he wrote to please the public, or to please himself and a few friends. In the first case, it is clear he ought not to have wilfully written trash that he knew to be uninteresting to the public generally. In the second case, Mr. Crowberry should have printed a few copies for private circulation. When he published the book to the world, the excuse as to his being compelled to write nonsense fell to the ground; for though he and his friends may prefer uninteresting and disconnected stories, they have no right to force their peculiar taste on the public at large. To conclude, Mr. Crowberry ought not to spoil a good confession by frivolous excuses. The simple truth is, the author knew, to use his own words, that the "incident" "possessed nothing in itself to commend it to the special attention of the reader, or even to a place in his pages"; yet, out of pure obstinacy, he inserted it! "I knew I ought not to steal that coat, and yet I did steal it." That is the author's confession.

*Literature in New South Wales.* By G. B. Barton. (Sydney, Richards.)

*Poets and Prose-Writers of New South Wales.* Edited by G. B. Barton. (Sydney, Gibbs, Shakard & Co.)

FOURSCORE years have not elapsed since Governor Phillips planted the flag-staff round

which the future city of Sydney was to gather itself,—and here we have a history of the literature, of the authors and of their works, that have grown up with the city. Forty years ago the population of Australia was under thirty thousand, and three-fourths of them were convicts; and now there are more than that number of honest folk in Sydney alone. Twenty years later the population exceeded the amount just named by a hundred thousand, and it has gone on increasing at the same rate of progression. In 1788 the first batch of convicts were flung ashore at Botany Bay, and in 1853 transportation ceased, two years after the discovery of gold by Hargraves and others. Since that time, New South Wales has justly plumed herself on her respectability, progress, and prospects. She has had to borrow money now and then, no doubt, and her bonds, too numerous issued, bear nothing like the value they used to do; but the most uncompromising "Radical" on this largest of islands or smallest of continents never dreams of tarnishing its honour by repudiation.

The literary statistics are interesting. Something more than the rough groundwork of a national literature has been raised. The literary taste of New South Wales manifests itself in the annual importation of probably more than a hundred thousand volumes, since the value of the literary freight is put down at 50,000L. Of the importations of periodicals which are at once sent to the colony in weekly stamped numbers as well as in monthly parts we can give no trustworthy information, as nothing is said of those that go to individuals by mail,—we only learn the numbers received by booksellers. The first newspaper set up in Sydney was the *Gazette*, in 1803; and as nearly all the "maternal" came from England, singular were the straits to which the editor was put when ink and paper were not to be had, and substitutes had to be found for them. Some of the early papers were edited by convicts. The first volume named above contains notices of works produced by natives of the colony or by men who have made it their permanent home. The most of these works, however, (except local periodicals,) are published in London. The second of the above publications contains biographical sketches of colonial authors, and occasional extracts from their productions. Among the poets figures Mr. Lowe, M.P.! who contributed a poem on the Moon to the *Sydney Atlas*, from which the following four stanzas afford a fair specimen of the writer's efforts:—

When infant earth,  
In might and mirth,  
Burst from the chain that bound her,  
I sprang from her breast,  
Like a bird from the nest,  
To hover for ever around her.

I shed my power  
O'er many an hour,  
When labour and grief are still;  
And the tides of ocean,  
In wildest commotion,  
Are swayed like a child at my will.

Full many a child  
Of genius wild  
Has basked in my noon of glory;  
And drunk a thought  
Which noon has wrought,  
To a theme of deathless story.

And many a maiden,  
With love o'erladen,  
Has sat with her lute beside her,  
And caught a bliss  
From my pearly kiss,  
Which warmer lips denied her.

Not the least interesting of the literary characters in New South Wales was Barrington the pickpocket. When permission was first given to the convicts to get up a play, they produced Young's 'Revenge,' and the felonious Barrington furnished the prologue, which he

did not steal, and in which occur the two witty lines:—

True patriots we; for be it understood,  
We left our country for our country's good.

Sketches of fourteen colonial authors are given in the second volume; among them is Mr. Kendall, with whose poetical powers we have already made our readers acquainted. The political writers seem given to frantic partisanship; and a Mr. Deniehy, at the head of that class, and more Irish than the Irish from whom he is descended, recognizes something god-like in John Mitchell, who proposed to make Ireland free by throwing vitriol in the faces of the soldiery, and seizing the wives of the leading nobility. Mr. Deniehy sees a hero in the man who escaped from captivity by breaking his pledged word of honour, and then set up in the Southern States of the Union as a slave-master!

Mr. Barton's volumes contain much new and pleasant matter on literature in Australia.

*A Handy Book to the Collection and Preparation of Freshwater and Marine Algae, Diatoms, Desmids, Fungi, Lichens, Mosses, and other of the Lower Cryptogamia, with Instructions for the Formation of an Herbarium.* By Johann Nave. Translated and edited by the Rev. W. W. Spicer, M.A. (Hardwicke.)

In addition to the groups of plants enumerated in the title-page, chapters on the Oscillatoriæ, the Characeæ, the Ferns and Flowering-plants, are mentioned in the Table of Contents. The student who is acquainted with the state of science will therefore perceive at once that this little book undertakes more than any little book can do. The art of preparing specimens of natural history is moreover advancing so rapidly, many little improvements making a muckle, that Herr Nave's book is already on many points obsolete and old-fashioned. Probably if the translator and editor, Mr. Spicer, were himself to write an original compilation of his own, embodying all the recent improvements, it would be a better and safer guide-book than this one. A novice may, no doubt, learn very much from this translation, many good hints about collecting plants, and ingenious methods of preparing specimens. But a fundamental defect in Herr Nave's book is the want of clear definitions of the groups of plants and vivid descriptions of the marks which separate them. These definitions and descriptions are especially necessary in a book devoted to some of the obscurest yet simplest, most rudimentary and least-known forms of life. The student of life passes from the substance which chemists call protein, proto-plasma, or albumen, to the facts of vegetal life in the simple cell. There are algae which consist of only a single cell. Life in plants and animals of the simplest types is so similar that there is the greatest difficulty in distinguishing them in the present state of science. Linnaeus divided the universe into stars, plants and animals, but nobody as yet has been able to draw the line between plant and animal life. The word *life* is probably from the same root as the old English word "lift," the sky or air, and thus life would mean breathing the air, or respiration. Plants breathe. Movement is not a distinction; for plants climb, float and fly, and in their movements guide themselves as if by choice, will or motive. Plants have occasionally heat, resembling animal heat. Perhaps, though a defective and unsatisfactory test, the least bad distinctive characteristic between plants and animals is the presence or absence of a stomach or digestive cavity. In proof of the difficulty

of discriminating, it may be mentioned that Mr. Rafts avows, in his monograph on the British Desmidiee, that when he began his studies he thought Desmids were animals and Diatoms vegetables, and he came in a great measure to reverse his opinions. Both are now classed with plants. The silicious valves of diatoms, being almost indestructible, form a submarine deposit in the South Arctic ocean, and they may be recognized in almost every dried-up pool. They are free and stalked, the stalked growing chiefly on sea algae. Under the microscope, these silicious valves present an appearance of sculpturings, which cannot be seen without admiration. When watching the growth of stalked diatoms, we have observed phenomena more like polarization or crystallization than animal or vegetal development. The desmids are exclusively a freshwater group. They are often seen as green layers at the bottoms of pools and ditches. The Oscillatoriæ dwell on mud and get their name from their instinct or peculiarity of waving backwards and forwards spontaneously, like a very slow pendulum. The water companies know the Characeæ from the rapidity with which they grow in stagnant water, canals and reservoirs. There are crusted and uncrusted species of these tubular plants, and beginners in botany prize the uncrusted kinds very highly, because they show the spiral circulation of green granules in their tubes, the ascending current near the cell wall and the descending near the axis.

Most people know more than they like about fungi, mildew, dry-rot, bunt, rust, smut and blight; but Mr. Spicer publishes such marvellous statements respecting one of the commonest fungi that they need confirmation. *Empusina musceæ* (Cohn) is the fungus which attacks house-flies, surrounding them in autumn with a white film which fastens them to windowpanes. This fungus is generated in their bodies. It pushes its filaments through their abdominal rings or segments, and spreads in all directions, sometimes an inch or two on either side. "This fungus," says Mr. Spicer, "when put into water, develops into a confervoid alga—*Achyla prolifera* (Nees)." And yet it is this fungus or alga which destroys gold fish by clothing their sides with long, colourless filaments. And the wonder does not cease here. *Achyla* is believed to be another form of *Botritis bassiana*, the muscardine which consumes the intestines of silkworms.

Lichens, or licking-up plants, derive their name from their detaining moisture upon the bare faces of rocks. They form a foothold, and then decaying, their remains become a humus or soil for mosses. Lichens are the only forms of life found on the barest rocks of the coldest regions near the Pole, and *Stereocaulon Vesuvianum* is the name of a lichen which spreads its thallus over the glowing lava of Vesuvius whilst it is cooling after an eruption.

Mosses, lichens, fungi, characeæ, oscillatoriæ, desmids, diatoms, and algæ, are groups, any one of which might well require a little book to guide the collector and *préparateur*; and the ferns and the flowering-plants have each had many books all to themselves. Mr. Spicer has modified and corrected not a little of the faulty advice of his German original; but there is one bit of defective advice which calls for more emphatic correction. Herr Nave advises novices to write on a label the Latin and Greek names and synonyms of every plant in preference to the names in the living languages. But this is not good advice. Why, it is a mere waste of time and labour to write a list of, it may be, thirty or forty mostly bad names. The most valuable name to record is the name first given, and by whom and where it was given, for by means of this clue the literature or bibliography of the

plant can be traced. Next to the first name the most important is the geographical name, by which the plant is known in its locality or habitat. To conclude, if read with discrimination, this handy-book may be consulted, with profit, and this is the best that can be said of it.

*The Assemblies of Al Hariri.* Translated from the Arabic, with an Introduction, and Notes Historical and Grammatical. By Thomas Chenery, M.A., of Lincoln's Inn, Barrister-at-Law. Vol. I., containing *The First Twenty-six Assemblies*. (Williams & Norgate.)

On the right shore of the Euphrates, about sixty miles from its mouth, on a low and swampy site, lies a large, unhealthy village. The easiest means of access to it is by a dirty canal, along which the visitor will have to row a mile and a half. He will have time to wonder that a resident of the great East India Company should long have hoisted his flag in so unpromising a spot. Still more will he wonder should he have read what has been said by a commentator on the Twelfth Assembly of the book before us: "The beautiful places of the earth are three, Damascus, Samarkand and Basra." Yes, this unwholesome spot is Basra, formerly a renowned city, and said, with intense oriental hyperbole, to have once extended so as almost to join its celebrated rival, Kufa. Yet Basra was, no doubt, a great city in its time, and the noble river which flows by it justified the Khalif Omar in selecting the spot for the foundation of an emporium. In the fourth century of its existence, Basra had become famous as a seat of Mohammedan learning. Its college rivalled the Nizamiyah at Baghdad, and its "grammatical school was from early times the most famous in the Arabic world." Here were born Al Khalil ibn Ahmed, "the founder of the elaborate and artificial system of Arabic prosody," and Abû'l Aswad, who "reduced to a system the rules which the most eloquent of the Arabs had habitually and unconsciously observed" in speech. But Basra was to produce a still greater genius. This was Abû Mohammed al Kâsim, who was born A.D. 1054, and was surnamed Hariri, or "silkmereer." His *Makâmat*, or "Assemblies," a translation of which is here published, continues to be regarded as the most astonishing production of Arab subtlety.

There is probably no region in which the Arabic language is spoken where the name of Hariri is not heard with respect. Even in this *chef-d'œuvre* of the Arabs has been widely extolled. Sir W. Jones and De Sacy have eulogized and in part translated it; and if it has been shown to be not imitable, it is only because Rückert has been able to imitate it. It may be said, however, that orientalists discover beauties in the works of eastern writers which cannot be described through the colder medium of European taste. If Sir W. Jones declares that the Twentieth Assembly will bear comparison with the "Lament of David over Saul and Jonathan," has he not also spoken of that burning, arid, parched-up desert of Aden as "surrounded with pleasant gardens and woods"? He that with the physical eye could see verdure at Aden might with the eye of his imagination discover beauties in Arabic poetry which have no real existence. It is, no doubt, true that those who have studied oriental works, Persian, Arabic, or Sanskrit, in the original, estimate those works at an immensely higher value than those who have simply perused translations of the same. This is not the case nearly to the same extent with regard to the writings of Greece and Rome. Pope's Homer and Tremenheere's Pindar are read

with scarcely less interest by those ignorant of Greek than the originals are by scholars. But with regard to the Hebrew poets, the parallel fails entirely, and a knowledge of the original language adds not one jot to our admiration of Job or the Psalms. The truth is, that the beauties of Arabic poetry consist rather in the sound of the verses than in their sense. Take, for instance, that supposed miracle of eloquence, the Koran; he that has read it in Arabic will admit the grandeur of its cadences, but the perusal of the English version is a drudgery to which few can submit. So with the seven Poems of the Days of Ignorance, thought worthy to be inscribed in letters of gold in the original, but which even the genius of Sir W. Jones cannot make attractive in English. The fact is, the true spirit of poetry is wanting in Arabia; look, for example, at the descriptions of the war-horse in Arabic poems, and compare them with that in the 39th chapter of Job. After all this, the reader will not expect to be charmed with this English version of Hariri. We will give him a specimen of what the translator calls exquisite verses:—

"O thou who didst fancy the mirage to be water when I quoted to thee what I quoted! I thought not that my guile would be hidden, or that it would be doubtful what I meant. By Allah, I have no Barrah for a spouse; I have no son from whom to take a bye-name. Nothing is mine but divers kinds of magic, in which I am original and copy no one: they are such as Al Asma' tells not of in what he has told; such as Al Komayt never wove. These I use when I will to reach whatever my hand would pluck: and were I to abandon them, changed would be my state, nor should I gain what I now gain. So allow my excuse; nay, pardon me, if I have done wrong or crime."

But it is time to tell the intending reader of the "Assemblies" what he is to look for from the general nature of the composition. All the Assemblies are written after the same model. One Al Harîth, who, like the merchant in Sâdi, is continually wandering from Baghdad to Damascus, from Damascus to Aleppo, and from Aleppo to Mekka, is eternally encountering a professional story-teller, called Abu Zaid, who recites verses and tells a dull tale, and so beguiles his hearers into supplying him with money, which he squanders with recklessness equal to the ease with which he obtains the cash. There is no incident whatever in the tales, and their only merit consists in all sorts of *tours de force* in composition; such as lines that may be read either backward or forward, lengthy double meanings, and innumerable allusions to Arab legends and proverbial sayings. We will give one specimen:—

"Behold I had a slave girl, elegant of shape, smooth of cheek, patient to labour. At one time she ambled like a good steed, at another she slept quietly in her bed: even in July thou wouldst feel her touch to be cool.—She had understanding and discretion, sharpness and wit, a hand with fingers, but a mouth without teeth: yet did she pique as with tongue of snake, and saunter in training robe; and she was displayed in blackness and whiteness; and she drank, but not from cisterns.—She was now truth-telling, now beguiling; now hiding, now peeping forth; yet fitted for employment, obedient in poverty and in wealth: if thou didst spurn, she showed affection, but if thou didst put her from thee, she remained quietly apart.—Generally would she serve thee, and be courteous to thee, though sometimes she might be froward to thee, and pain thee, and trouble thee. — Now this youth asked her service of me for a purpose of his own, and I made her his servant, without reward;—On the condition that he should enjoy the use of her, but not burden her with more than she could bear.—But he forced on her too hard a work, and exacted of her long labour;—Then returned her to me broken in health, offering a compensation which I accept not."

The explanation of the above is as follows :

"I had a needle, straight of shape and smooth of side, lasting for work; that sometimes moved quickly in the sewer's hands, and sometimes rested in the needle-box; it was sometimes filed in July, it had strength to hold with its rein of thread, it had sharpness and point: it hemmed the garment by the aid of the sewer's fingers; it had a mouth (eye) without teeth; it sometimes pricked with its point, as it was driven through the cloth; it carried a long thread after it; it had sometimes a black and sometimes a white thread; it was bedewed only with the sweat of the sewer's hand; it sewed the cloth or lined it; it now hid itself behind the cloth, and now appeared again; it was adapted for use; it went easily into any orifice, small or large; if thou didst rend anything it joined it, but if thou didst lay it aside in the needle-box, it remained where it was put; mostly did it serve thee and adorn thee by its work, but sometimes it would prick thee, and pain thee and trouble thee."

The above extracts will, we think, warn the general reader that there are many much more attractive Tales for him than those of Hariri. Arabic students, indeed, can find no more profitable book than that which Mr. Chereny has translated, and will do well to possess themselves of a translation so correct and notes so valuable. Those who are acquainted with Sanskrit also will smile to see the same display of ingenuity in word-puzzles in the old writings of two literatures otherwise so different. But for the public in general the masterpieces of Arabic composition will have few attractions.

*Greece, Ancient and Modern.* Lectures delivered before the Lowell Institute, by C. C. Felton, L.L.D. 2 vols. (Boston, U.S., Ticknor & Fields; London, Trübner & Co.)

Four courses of lectures are included in these volumes—three upon Ancient Greece, and one upon Modern Greece. The subject is a wide one, embracing portions of the geography and history of the country, its political and social aspects, but more especially its language and literature. It was not to be expected that there should be any great novelty in the treatment of Ancient Greece, after the laborious and successful investigations of so many eminent scholars. Nor would lectures before a mixed audience have been the appropriate vehicle for communicating any fresh discoveries or enunciating new theories supported by elaborate argument. But if there is not much for a well-read classical scholar to learn from what is here said of Ancient Greece, there are some particulars with regard to Modern Greece which, though not absolutely new, may have escaped his notice; and general readers will find abundance of information on both Ancient and Modern Greece well worthy of their perusal; while all must be charmed with the attractive manner in which the subject is handled. The lectures must have been delightful to hear, as they are pleasant to read. They are now and then enlivened by touches of playful humour and happy allusion, which must have told upon an intelligent audience when accompanied by expressive tones, looks and gestures. Speaking of Greece as it appears on the map, the lecturer says—"Added to the United States or Mexico it would make no appreciable enlargement of the boundaries of either. The spirit of annexation would hardly pause to consider it; Manifest Destiny would devour it without a moment's satiety to its enormous appetite."

But with this general ease and occasional playfulness of manner, there is no violation of decorum,—nothing beneath the true dignity of a Professor. If there be any fault in point of taste, it is in the opposite direction of too

rhetorical and inflated a style whenever the nature of the subject suggests or admits of a more elevated tone. Reading, however, is very different from hearing; and probably these passages which we are now inclined to condemn may have been among the most effective when uttered. Nor, perhaps, did the audience notice or object to the numerous instances in which the lecturer repeats himself,—partly from the nature of his plan, which leads him to treat in detail of what he had previously discussed generally,—partly from a desire to refresh the memory of his hearers,—and partly, perhaps, from inadvertence. It is not improbable that if the author had lived to perform the task of revision for himself, he would have rectified this in some way. At any rate, the blemish, if blemish it can be called, is more than counterbalanced by many excellencies, among which may be specified the healthy moral tone that pervades the whole. As we read we feel that we are in contact not only with a mind of high culture, but a heart of wide and generous sympathies. The lecturer shrinks not from holding up to just reprobation the faults of his own country and time even in the presence of an American audience, while he is equally warm in his admiration of noble character, in whatever race and with whatever creed it may be found.

In treating of the poets, the lecturer gives biographical particulars respecting each, with remarks on their literary character, illustrated by descriptions and analyses of their works, with passages translated into English verse. He boldly maintains the personality of Homer, his authorship of the *Odyssey* as well as the *Iliad*, and the unity of each. Here, as also in reference to the Sophists, whom he describes on no less than three different occasions, he does not scruple to set at naught the authority of Mr. Grote, without, however, confuting his arguments. The account given of lyric poetry, the drama, and the dramatists is very satisfactory, and indicates a familiarity with classical literature worthy of a President of Harvard University. So also is the description of the Life of Greece, which forms the subject of the second course, though it contains several repetitions of what had been stated in previous lectures.

Probably most readers will be more interested in the fourth course, on Modern Greece, than either of the others. The lecturer seems himself to have entered into this subject with peculiar zest, and to have had special qualifications for treating it successfully. He possessed an extensive knowledge of modern Greek literature, and published a useful volume of selections from writers in prose and verse, with notes. He also spoke the language fluently, and made himself familiar with the country and the people by visiting them. As in the first course, so here, the lecturer goes beyond the limits of his subject, including in the course sketches of the history of the country from the Macedonian conquest to the present time, and biographies of eminent persons. Among others, he dwells with especial fondness on Julian the Apostate, for whom he confesses a strong liking, on account of his talents, accomplishments and virtues. He also gives an excellent portrait of Chrysostom.

The story of the Greek revolution is told with vivid force and general accuracy, though not without a very strong and evident bias in favour of the Greeks, whom the lecturer takes every opportunity of extolling, and does his best to defend or excuse when necessary. One is rather disposed to admire than blame a partisanship so natural in a republican classical scholar.

#### RECENT POETRY.

*Light after Darkness: Religious Poems.* By Harriet Beecher Stowe. (Low & Co.)

THESE religious effusions of Mrs. Stowe are very graceful and melodious. At times, we meet with a thought or an image that deserves higher praise, though the book, as a whole, is more remarkable for sweet and devout feeling than for imagination. Indeed, the fact is certain, whatever be the cause, that nothing is more rare than the union of imagination with the advocacy of religious belief, or even with the expression of feeling which that belief suggests. The canons of a faith may be as sublime as they are true, but it is seldom indeed that the highest graces of poetry attend upon their enumeration or upon the reflexion of their influence. To the combination, however, of fancy and picturesqueness with religious sentiment, Mrs. Stowe does attain, as a few stanzas from her "Day in the Pamphil Doria" will show :—

And now for the grand old fountains,  
Tossing their silvery spray,  
Those fountains so quaint and so many,  
That are leaping and singing all day.  
Those fountains of strange weird sculpture,  
With lichens and moss o'ergrown,  
Are they marble greening in moss-wreaths?  
Or moss-wreaths whitening to stone?  
Down many a wild, dim pathway  
We ramble from morning till noon;  
We linger, unheeding the hours,  
Till evening comes all too soon.  
And from out the flea alleys,  
Where lengthening shadows play,  
We look on the dreamy Campagna,  
All glowing with setting day,  
All melting in bands of purple,  
In swathings and foldings of gold,  
In ribands of azure and lilac,  
Like a princely bower unrolled.  
And the smoke of each distant cottage,  
And the flash of each villa white,  
Shines out with an opal glimmer,  
Like gems in a casket of light.  
And the dome of old St. Peter's  
With a strange transluence glows,  
Like a mighty bubble of amethyst  
Floating in waves of rose.  
In a trance of dreamy vagueness  
We, gazing and yearning, behold  
That city beheld by the prophet,  
Whose walls were transparent gold.  
And, dropping all solemn and slowly,  
To hallow the softening spell,  
There falls on the dying twilight  
The Ave Maria bell.  
With a mournful motherly softness,  
With a weird and weary care,  
That strange and ancient city  
Seems calling the nations to prayer.  
And the word: that of old the angel  
To the mother of Jesus brought,  
Rise like a new evangel,  
To hallow the trance of our thought.

*Rustic Poems.* By Joseph Verey. (Stock.)

THESE poems merit attention. The characters which they present have always decided individuality, and, in some cases, they are types, which, though common enough in life, are novel in literature. The figures here are roughly but finely sketched, and a background of natural scenery, or of some "interior," is often thrown in with happy "realism." Mr. Verey has powers which well deserve to be disciplined. We would direct attention particularly to his poems entitled "Nancy Trinder and her son Job," "Dampin's Funeral," "Sailor Ned," "Martin Doyle," and "The Stroller's Last Part." Mr. Verey has still much to acquire in point of style; but he has so much genuine feeling and sense of character that we hope to meet with him again.

In that large class of verse which has a claim upon respect rather than encouragement, we must include *Kentish Lyrics*, by Benjamin

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Gough (Houlston & Wright),—*Edgar Thorpe; or, the Warfare of Life*, by William Whiting (Winchester, Dodswell; London, Simpkin, Marshall & Co.),—*An Essay on Politics, in Verse* (Ballarat, Holmes),—*The Labourer's Child, and other Poems*, by the Rev. C. R. W. Waldy, M.A. (Wimborne, Purkis; London, Macintosh),—*Cordis Cantiluncula and Pennula Animi*, by a Clergyman of the Established Church (Kitto),—and a translation of Schiller's *Lay of the Bell* and *The Diver*, by John Wynnatt Grant (printed for the Author). These translations have average merit, but they are not striking enough to displace their predecessors.

*The Founders of the Belgian Monarchy. The Regent. Compiled from his Papers and other Unpublished Documents*—[*Les Fondateurs de la Monarchie Belge, &c.*, par Théodore Just]. (Brussels, Muquardt; London, Trübner & Co.)

THE lives of the Founders of the Belgian Monarchy take a long time in the telling, though the story is short when it is told. The biography of M. Lebeau, one of the honest and useful citizens of his day, has almost floated out of the public memory, before that of an even more eminent but perhaps less known man, at least in England, challenges the public attention. The Regent of Belgium was one of the most distinguished and far-seeing citizens of his country at one of the most critical moments of that country's history. His name has passed away like that of many a good man who has left no enemies behind to question his goodness. It is right, however, that the memories of such men should be kept fresh; and the value of their achievements is not to be estimated by the time required for their fulfilment. Twice in his life Cincinnatus was in positions of supreme power and usefulness, yet the two periods put together would not make six weeks. But Livy has made the memory of the man and the time imperishable. Surlet de Chokier is not so famous as Cincinnatus, but he was the right man in the right place, just when his country needed the man and could find no other so well suited for the place. M. Just is a very agreeable Livy for this friend to his country.

The Baron Surlet de Chokier was a younger son of a noble family, of a family so ancient that one of its early representatives was not merely named from his estate, but from a peculiar possession of another sort, of which he was as proud. This ancestor was Louis de Molmarck of the red trunk hose! Erasmus Louis Surlet de Chokier was born in Liège, in 1769, and, being a younger son, he was educated for the priesthood; but he lived to beat the prince-bishop of Liège out of his bishopric, to help to turn the Austrians out of the Netherlands, to bear arms under France and be a Frenchman, to see the King of Holland king also of his own country and to feel himself a Dutchman, and, finally, the heirless survivor of his family, to have served his country supremely well, on two occasions, by introducing into Belgium the breed of merinos, and by fulfilling with equal dignity and modesty the office of Regent when Belgium was without a master and half-a-dozen powers were intriguing for individual supremacy and the annihilation of all opponents.

We can remember the Franklin-like simplicity and shrewdness of the Regent when his fellow-citizens selected him as the depositary of supreme power in a most perilous crisis. No man was sure of the issue. There was Republican party, a Bonapartist party, a French party, a party desiring an independent Belgian monarchy, and a most active and dangerous

Orange party. Some Belgian statesmen fancied England favoured the latter faction and its views. Full of the old traditions of the "Pitt and Cobourg" times, M. Gendebier wrote to the Count de Celles, the Belgian envoy in Paris: "England is intriguing. She is scattering gold broadcast in order to re-establish the Prince of Orange. We only ask of France, who calls herself our friend, a 'Yes,' without another word. Is it possible she should hesitate? If she will not say it for her sincere and necessary friend (Belgium), let her, at least, say it against her natural enemy. Let her cease to be the dupe of the Machiavelian intrigues of England." What an old world air such nonsense as this has at present. When it was uttered it was nearer to the beginning of the century, when similar ideas were applied to all political circumstances, than it is to ours, when the assurance that we have something better to do with our gold than sow it broadcast for ingratitude to reap is pretty well established.

In the glory and perils of his post the fine old Regent,—a country gentleman turned sovereign for a few weeks, and longing to become a country gentleman again,—was never wanting. In dignity and presence of mind he never failed. His story was well worth the telling, and it is as well worth the reading. There are great men in all countries, and Surlet de Chokier was one of the great men of Belgium. On an August evening in 1839 he bade *farewell*, on the threshold of his door, to the curate of Gurgelon, who had paid him a business visit. As he turned to go into the house, he experienced a sensation of pain, and lying down on the sofa, the fine old country gentleman, erst Regent of Belgium, died, in the seventieth year of an active and honourable life.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Semele: or, the Spirit of Beauty.* By the Rev. J. D. Merewether. (Rivingtons.)

THE reverend author of this work, who is dissatisfied with the ordinary guide-books for Venice, hit upon a novel, if not a fortunate, idea when he devised a sort of Spirit 'Murray,' who, under circumstances of the most fantastic and sensational nature, becomes the poetical and antiquarian cicerone to another extraordinary being, the Semele who gives name to the publication which is now before us. Semele was the child of astonishing parents, and born in fire, or rather, as we understand it, on the hearth-rug, "before a large fire," in her grandfather's mansion. This strange nativity could not but introduce a peculiar creature, yet, contrary to our expectations, no Salamander, as the sequel showed. Brought up in the way which is common to extraordinary births,—especially when they are endowed by Nature with "cheeks of transparent, too transparent clearness and brilliancy," "beautiful teeth and most expressive lips," coral tints, "luxuriant tresses of light auburn hair," and other singular properties,—this damsel leads an extraordinary life, and studies Rosicrucian, Swedenborgian, and other recondite matters. After the catastrophe on the hearth-rug, having no mother, and losing her father without knowing him, dressed by her grand-parent on excusable grounds, and ere long losing him also, she develops in a well-promising fashion. Mistress of a fortune, gifted with all sorts of poetic ideas, she sets out for Switzerland with considerable suite, which includes a matter-of-fact Miss Lockhart and a genial Scotch physician—why Scotch we cannot say. In Switzerland she is bored by mendicants, and retires out of their reach to almost inaccessible mountain heights. In one of these beggarless solitudes, while "her eyes shot forth gleams of strange intelligence," she, after the manner of Manfred, invoked the *Jungfrau*, who, or which, turns out to be not the Virgin, but a male Spirit of Beauty, and, stranger still, a courteous, nay, merciful spirit, who is

desirous to spare her the shock of his presence. The dialogue between these personages results in a promise by the Appearance to become a Spirit 'Murray' for Venice. This concession is made after much coaxing on the one hand, and many threats on the other, that she will use that "mystic sign, the terrible word," which writers of Mr. Merewether's order are considerate enough never to impart. It must be something like a word, for mere reference to it caused "all Nature to shudder with anguish and shook the heart of the *Jungfrau* to entreaties." The female Manfred, with all the impatience of her youth and sex, desired instant appearance of the Spirit; but, in pure mercy, he consents to show her the perfection of beauty in an earthly form by becoming an essential "Guide in Venice." Not that he serves in trousers and as a courier or other servant of a traveller, but as an "invisible essence." Following her to Venice, the Spirit 'Murray' remains invisible, yet nevertheless imparts much fanciful information about public and private buildings, but is indebted to the Rev. Mr. Merewether for a considerable number of antiquarian and topographical annotations. As might be expected, the Spirit becomes to the reader a tremendous bore, of the aesthetical class—which is the greatest bore of all. Not so to Semele, who, after the circuit of the city is completed, demands sight of the Spirit 'Murray,' who, amid fireworks, "appeared a form as of fire, yet brighter than the lightning that garbed it." This is not enough for the "demented Semele"; she cries for a more perfect vision; this is granted in a manner which even the Rev. Mr. Merewether and his printer utterly fail to describe, so they hide their incompetent heads under five full-stops . . . . The Scotch "physician returned that night to Venice" with a lunatic patient. What may happen to any of his countrymen who take the author for a guide—he is "English Chaplain at Venice"—we fear to think.

*Among the Squirrels.* By Mrs. Denison. Illustrated by Ernest Griset. (Routledge & Sons.)

THIS is a pleasant, but rather over-elaborate story of the forest lives of squirrels, in the course of which those animals, as is the wont of such tales, are endowed with human feelings, passions and habits. The local colouring of the landscape parts of the text is prettily and carefully displayed, with much zest for Nature and some sentiment. It is a story for young girls, not children, but little ladies of the hobbledehoy state of life. M. Griset's illustrations are rather more sketchy than is usual with him, but they are neatly executed, and show much of his characteristic humour.

*A Treatise on the Identity of Herne's Oak, showing the Maiden Tree to have been the Real One.* By W. Perry. (Booth.)

IMMENSE discussion has taken place about the genuineness of the tree which long bore the name of Herne the Hunter, stood near a spot called the Fairies' Dell, in the Home Park at Windsor, and fell on the 31st of August, 1862. Some believed the true tree was cut down in 1796. Being interested in the genuine ascription of the first-named tree, our author made inquiries and otherwise collected information on the general subject. He carefully analyzed the whole of the evidence, which has thus been brought together, and we do not say we differ from his conclusion, although it seems impossible to admit that because

—there want not many that do fear  
In deep of night to walk by this Herne's oak,  
Therefore it must have been near a path, "for  
people to fear walking by it." That the fairies  
should, as Anne Page said, make their

—dances of custom, round about the oak  
Of Herne the hunter,

appears conclusive to us that it did not stand near a frequented path, such as Mr. Perry speaks of as leading from the Dairy to the Castle at about forty feet from it. Moreover, it seems to us improbable that a tree thus situated would be selected for Falstaff's appointment and chastisement. Mr. Perry errs in ascribing to Mrs. Quickly the lines we have quoted last. They come from a speech by Anne Page.

*History of the City of Rome*—[*Geschichte der Stadt Rom*, von Alfred von Reumont. Erster Band.] (Berlin, Decker; London, Williams & Norgate.)

At the instigation and with the support of the late King of Bavaria, Herr von Reumont consented to write on a subject with which he was familiar, but the extent and difficulties of which were such as almost to deter him from the undertaking. What he had to do was to present a complete history of the city of Rome, one that would be sufficiently popular to be read by a large circle, and yet sufficiently scientific to be accepted by severer students. He had, further, to condense the history of the world during the times of the Roman Empire into such a compass as would leave the account of the city clear and distinct, while doing ample justice to the part played in the history of the world by the city which was its capital. Such was Herr von Reumont's task, and the first volume of his work is now before us. Beginning with the foundation of the city, he carries us on to the fall of the Empire of the West. The legends which, before the time of Niebuhr, were accepted as records of fact, give place to more certain ground. We pass through the republican period and the rivalry of Carthage, the rise of Julius Caesar and the commencement of the Empire, which his death prevented from being a kingdom; and then follow those strange vicissitudes of absolute power and utter ruin, of tyranny and weakness, of worship paid to a God and obedience purchased from soldiers, which begin so soon after the very zenith of Cesarean glory, and accompany it to its close. Herr von Reumont is an admirable guide for the whole of this story, though we sometimes regret that the limits and the necessities of his work curtail the description of events which he touches upon so worthily. He misses nothing, but an allusion is often the utmost that he can give. If we want more, we must go to Mommsen; but we have no wish to be driven away from Herr von Reumont. As a sample of what can be made of an incidental sketch, we would point to the short chapter on the private life of Augustus. As a brief but masterly description of an event which has found innumerable chroniclers, we would select the history of Julius Caesar's death and the scenes which immediately followed. The excellence of Herr von Reumont's style, and the unusual clearness of his German, have more than once been mentioned in these columns. But on the present occasion we feel bound to be more emphatic in our praise. It is not only that Herr von Reumont writes clearly and tersely, that his sentences are often short and his words simple. We do not say that these characteristics are always to be observed, for the subject of the work is learned, and there are chapters or paragraphs which will be passed over by all but the most patient. Still, the general effect of the book is good, even for Herr von Reumont, and it is marked by one trait which we have sometimes missed in him, dispassionate fairness. We can see that he is writing for a large circle of readers, and that he has no wish to obtrude opinions the expression of which is gratifying to himself personally, but which might estrange those best able to appreciate him. With all this impartiality, he is not indifferent. But his impartiality is that of the judge, while indifference is often the part of the defeated advocate.

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

- Brierley's Daisy Nook, Sketches, 12mo. 1/ cl.  
Brown's Land of Thor, Illust. sm. 8vo. 6s cl.  
Burton's Contemplation on Israel's Exodus, or, 8vo. 3/ cl.  
Carpenter's New Scotch Song-Book, 12mo. 1/ bds.  
Chambers' London, from "Mod. Antiq." 12mo. 10/6 cl. extrm.  
Cumming's Great Stanley, Seventh Earl of Derby, 4to. 7/6 cl.  
De Poix-Tyrel's Grammar, German and English, 8vo. 3/ cl.  
De Poix-Tyrel's Grammar, Four Languages, ob. 8vo. 7/6 cl.  
Fletcher's Railways in their Medical Aspects, or, 8vo. 5/6 cl.  
Gurney's Life and Labours of the Rev. J. G. Brooke, 12mo. 2/6 cl.  
Hoppin's Old England, its Scenery, Art, and People, 8vo. 7/6 cl.  
Hunter's Key to Modern Arithmetic, 12mo. 5/ cl.  
Knight's Arch of Titus, and Spoils of the Temple, fe. 4to. 10/ cl.  
Le Fanu's Tenants of Malory, A Novel, 3 vols. cl. 8vo. 31/6 cl.  
Longfellow's Sermons and Lectures on Scripture, 12mo. 1/ cl.  
Lord's Crab, Shrimp, and Lobster, 12mo. 1/ bds.  
Mursell's Readings from Lectures, fe. 1/ cl. swd.  
Newall's Hot Hunting in the East, Illust. 8vo. 21/ cl.  
Photographs of the Clyde, cr. 4to. 10/6 cl.  
Prestwich's Geology, Part I, Sequel to "Prestwich's Geology," 15, B.C. 763, we find that the Assyrian Canon, as laid down on the Nineveh tablets, commenced with the year B.C. 909. Whether this year was really the commencement of a new reign, or whether,

#### FROM THE SPANISH OF LUIS DE CAMOENS.

De dentro tengo mi mal,  
Que de fuera no hay señal.  
I have my ailment from within;  
No outward sign it shows.  
This loving 'plaint so new, so sweet,  
My soul alone to feel is meet.  
The worthless body nothing knows;  
The idler heeds not as he goes.  
As the lightning's flash lies hidden  
Within the flint, but gleams when bidden,  
I have my ailment from within.

F. W. C.

#### ROYAL HOSPITAL FOR INCURABLES.

The Correspondent who is engaged in reviewing in our columns the Charitable Institutions of London wishes to make a single observation on Mr. Andrew's statement, given by us in full last week:—

"Mr. Andrew's letter on the subject of the Royal Hospital for Incurables seems to me to confirm all that was said respecting that institution. Only one observation appears to me to be necessary on any part of it. He says—'Had he (the writer) not taken the word of some irresponsible person, but ascended to the top floor of the wing, he would have found it occupied by many patients. It has not a spare room.' The writer did not 'take the word of any irresponsible person.' He took the word of the Governor of the Hospital, who showed him over the building. And he believes the Governor's statement, that 'the whole of the upper floors were vacant'; for the gate and doorway leading to those floors were locked, and the staircase was crowded with articles of furniture; so that there was no convenient access to those floors. If they were 'occupied by many patients,' and 'had not a spare room,' as Mr. Andrew says, there is something of a very suspicious character attaching to the Governor's statement that the floors were vacant, and to the circumstance of their not being shown, the entrance to them being locked and barred. With reference to Mr. Andrew's letter generally, it is much to be regretted that, instead of defending the application of the enormous revenues of this Hospital to building and estate expenses, and the investment of so large a proportion of its income in a Permanent Endowment Fund, the Board of Management has not at once decided on admitting the unfortunate applicants for relief, and employing the contributions of the public upon those for whom they were intended."

We shall have more to say about the mismanagement of this great charity ere long.

#### THE ASSYRIAN CANON.

Knoyle House, Hindon, Wilts, Aug. 27, 1867.

The recovery from amongst the grimy hoards of the British Museum of some more minute fragments of the Clay Tablet which contains our most perfect copy of the Assyrian Canon, has enabled me within these few days to ascertain, for the first time, the principles on which the original chronological system of the Assyrians was based, and—which will be of still more interest to the general student of ancient history—to explain how this system led up to the institution of the Era of Nabonassar in B.C. 747.

The origin of this era, which played such an important part in ancient science, has been hitherto enveloped in much obscurity. The Assyrian annals have shown that there was no political revolution at the time which could account for the establishment of a new epochal period; and if the era in question merely indicated a rectification of the calendar, there was an equal difficulty in understanding why the year B.C. 747 should have been selected, in preference to any other, for such a purpose. I am now able to offer a satisfactory solution of the matter.

By counting up the names of the yearly Eponymes from the date of the solar eclipse on June 15, B.C. 763, we find that the Assyrian Canon, as laid down on the Nineveh tablets, commenced with the year B.C. 909. Whether this year was really

as is more probable, it merely marked the origin of a chronological cycle, is of no great importance to the argument. The essential matter is, that the list of Eponymes on the Nineveh tablets, which is neither more nor less than a chronological table or canon, beginning in B.C. 909, continues uninterruptedly, with mere linear divisions marking the commencements of the successive reigns, till the year B.C. 828, when in the middle of a reign a line is drawn across the column of names, and the name of the reigning king (Shalmaneser II.) is again inserted as Eponyme for the second time, a remarkable explanation of this double Eponyme, which has only just been recognized on one of the newly-discovered fragments, being afforded by the Annals of the King in question, where he states that in his 31st year (i.e., B.C. 838), "he inaugurated the second cycle." (The verb used in this passage is *akrur*, from *akru*, "to move in a circle," see Black Obelisk, 4th side, lines 174 and 175.) The interval, then, between B.C. 909 and 828, gives a period of 81 years for the duration of the cycle, and shows us that the 2nd cycle of the Canon, commencing with B.C. 828, would have thus terminated with the year 748; so that if the Calendar had worked satisfactorily, and the cyclical system had been continued, 747, the year of the era of Nabonassar, would have been the 1st year of the 3rd Period; but it is evident from the construction of the Canon that a change of system occurred from the year B.C. 747. Previously each King, as a matter of course, had become Eponyme on his accession, that is to say, he had given his name to the first year which commenced after he came to the throne; but subsequently to B.C. 747 the distribution seems to have been by periods of four years, like the Greek Olympiads, and the King, in deference to the new system, took the Eponyme, not of the first year, but of the first Olympiad which commenced after his accession. Thus, Tiglath-Pileser is known to have ascended the throne in 745, which was the 3rd year of the 1st Olympiad, era of Nabonassar. He therefore headed the 2nd Olympiad as Eponyme in 743. Shalmaneser IV. ascended the throne in 727, the 1st year of the 6th Olympiad, to which year an Eponyme had been already appointed, so that he could not take his Eponyme till 728, which was the 1st year of the 7th Olympiad E. N., and under which accordingly his name is found in one of the Canon fragments recently discovered.

There has been some disagreement amongst Assyrian scholars as to whether Sargon ascended the throne in 722 or 721. Canon No. 1. draws the regnal division between 723 and 722, thereby assigning the King's accession to 722; but the tablets, of which there are many specimens, bearing the date both of the Eponyme and of the year of the king's reign, uniformly, as far as my experience goes, reckon from 721. Probably, therefore, Sargon succeeded Shalmaneser in 722, the year after that king's Eponyme, but dated from 721, as the first year of his reign. However this may be, the first Olympiad which commenced after his accession was the 8th; and accordingly we find him as Eponyme for the year 719, which was the first year of that Olympiad. In the case of Sennacherib we meet with a difficulty. We know that he ascended the throne on the 12th of Ab, B.C. 705, and we see from the dated tablets that 704 was reckoned as his first year; we should, therefore, expect him to head, as Eponyme, the 12th Olympiad, which commenced with the next year, 703. But it is not so; his name, on the contrary, does not appear in the list of Eponymes till the year 687, which was the 1st year of the 16th Olympiad; and as this postponement of his Eponyme could hardly have been accidental, I am tempted to deduce from it that under the new system of Olympiads, or quadrennial periods, the cycle was altered from 81 years to 60 (or a *soss*); and that the King, instead of accepting an ordinary Eponyme at the commencement of his reign, preferred to inaugurate the 2nd reformed Cycle, as his great predecessor, Shalmaneser II., had inaugurated the 2nd original Cycle in B.C. 828.

After this period—that is, during the reigns of Esar-Haddon, *Assur-bani-pal* (or Sardanapalus), and *Assur-ebil-ili*, who were the last three kings of Assyria—positive chronological data are wanting.

We have no continuous list of Eponymes below the year 666 (which, if the original system had been continued, would have been the 1st year of a 4th cycle), nor do any royal names appear as Eponymes either in the Tables, or on the dated Tablets. My own impression is—derived from the marked change in the order of titular succession of Eponymes subsequent to the year 687, as well as from the evidence afforded by the astrological tablets of the reign of *Asdur-bani-pal*, of several distinct methods of intercalation—that a third chronological system, different both from the Cycle of 81 years and from that of 60 years, was introduced by Sennacherib when he inaugurated a new epochal period in the 61st year of the Era of Nabonassar; but I am not at present prepared to offer any suggestions as to the component elements of this later Calendar. I merely wish in this place to offer a few observations regarding the Cycle of 81 years, on which the Assyrian Canon was formed, and which certainly led up to the institution of the era of Nabonassar at its third recurrence in B.C. 747. Whether this Cycle was based on any fancied luni-solar relations (such as the approximate equality of 81 solar revolutions to 1,000 lunations), or whether the number was adopted merely from its mystical proportions, as the square of 9, I have found no sufficient evidence on the tablets; nor am I enabled even to assert positively whether, under the reformed calendar of the era of Nabonassar, the quadrennial periods were joined together in an Octaeteris, and regulated by the intercalation of three months at the end of the Cycle, or whether, as asserted by Ptolemy and Censorinus, the Babylonian Calendar, dating from the era of Nabonassar, was identical with the vague year of the Egyptians, of which 1460 made up a Sothic Cycle, and which numbered, as is well known, 360 days with 5 Epagomenae. It is certain that both of these systems are indicated on the Tablets, and appear to have been co-existent; for, on the one hand, it is repeatedly stated that the Assyrian year consisted of 360 days, divided into 12 months of 30 days each, and all the ordinary calculations with regard to the disappearance of the planets for a certain number of days are regulated on this scale in specifying the precise date of their re-appearance; whilst, on the other hand, there is in most of the Calendars an intercalary month of 30 days corresponding with the *Ve-adar* of the Hebrews; and that the lunar month, moreover, was in general use is proved by the record of eclipses on the 14th day of the month, and especially by the numerous Observatory Reports, stating whether the new moon had been seen on the 29th or 30th day of the month. Strange to say, too, in some of the stellar computations I have found allowance made for a double *Elul* of 30 days, and on one Calendar fragment the year comprises 15 months, *Nisan*, *Elul* and *Adar* being all doubled, for the purpose apparently of intercalation. It is this singular confusion of details which leads me to believe that there must have been many different attempts to rectify the Assyrian Calendar, and that such rectifications are to be referred to the adoption of different cycles or chronological systems, though our materials are not yet sufficiently extensive or precise to enable us to assign to each epoch its particular Calendar.

I would further venture to suggest that the cycle adopted by the Jews after the time of Alexander, and transferred by them to the Christians in A.D. 46, bears strong marks of relationship to the chronological system of the Assyrians. In the first place, the unusual period of 81 years, which has hitherto been a puzzle to chronologers, would seem to be an attempted improvement on the Assyrian Cycle of 81 years (84 true solar years, indeed, contain 30,630 days; and this is the precise number of days contained in 1,040 lunations, supposing the month, according to the universal belief of that period, to consist of 29½ days exactly); and, in the second place, it is only by measuring 6 Calippic periods of 76 years each (or, which is the same thing, 24 Metonic Cycles of 19 years each) from the era of Nabonassar, in B.C. 747, that we obtain the date of B.C. 291, which, according to Dean Prideaux, was the true date of the institution of the Jewish era. This era and cycle, I may add,

continued to be used by the early Christians for the determination of Easter until the period of the Nicene Council, in A.D. 325, when the old calendar—relic, as I suppose, of so-called Assyrian science—was superseded by the Metonic Cycle, which, under the disguise of a “Golden Number,” remains in use to the present day.

There are two other points connected with the Assyrian Canon to which I would invite the attention of chronologers. Is it, in the first place, by a mere coincidence that the Roman era as determined by Fabius Pictor, and adopted by Livy, fell on the same year (B.C. 747) as the Assyrian era of Nabonassar, or could the early Romans have borrowed from the East? And, secondly, as the succession of yearly archons at Athens is identical with the Assyrian system of Eponymes, and the Olympiad exactly answers to the *terpaernpia* of the era of Nabonassar, while the Assyrian month, like the Greek, was divided into decades instead of weeks, and there was presumably a similar system of intercalation in order to reconcile solar and lunar time, little doubt can, I think, exist as to the close connexion of the two calendars in their earlier stages of existence. Which, then, was the original, and which the borrowed system? The Assyrian Eponymes can be traced certainly to the 13th century B.C., and probably much earlier; at any rate, long anterior to the time of Medon (B.C. 1070); but, on the other hand, if the date of Corabus, in B.C. 776, be historical, the Olympiad must have preceded the institution of quadrennial periods in Assyria, which only date from the era of Nabonassar. I leave these questions to the consideration of professed chronologers, merely observing that, as Mr. George Smith, the cuneiform transcriber at the British Museum, to whom I expressed my obligations on a former occasion, and to whose indefatigable exertions we are now further indebted for the recovery of the fragments that have supplied me with the materials of this letter, is still prosecuting his search among the crumbling debris of the Nineveh Tablets, there is good reason to hope that we may ultimately complete Canon No. 1, and be thus enabled to resolve many doubts regarding the later chronology of the Assyrian Empire, which at present hamper the inquiry.

H. C. RAWLINSON.

P.S.—In my letter to the *Athenæum* of May 13, 1867, I mentioned that, on the dated tablets of the reign of Sargon, the name of the king was usually written at length, as *Sarru-vakinu-arku*; and I offered a conjectural explanation of the epithet “arku,” after, which was thus added to the name. I have since found a tablet giving a mythical history of the original king *Sarginia*, who was the ruler of *Agani*, near Sippara, in Babylonia, and who seems to have played an important part in the Assyrian heroic mythology (see Rawl. Ins. vol. ii. pl. 39, l. 41; pl. 48, l. 40; and pl. 50, l. 64). It occurs to me now, therefore, as a more probable explanation that the father of Sennacherib may have been called “the later Sarginia,” or “the second Sarginia,” to distinguish him from the hero of romance, whose adventures were better known amongst the Assyrian people.

#### MERCATOR'S MAP OF THE EMPIRE OF PRESTER JOHN.

Bekebourne, Sept. 2, 1867.

My friend Mr. Hogg and I view Mercator's map in such very different lights, that to discuss it further would, I fear, be to no good purpose. On one point only are we agreed, which is, that “it cannot for a moment be supposed that Mercator fabricated this central portion of Africa solely from his own brain and fancy.” I would only add that, in commenting on the extract from my paper ‘On the Nile and its Tributaries,’ Mr. Hogg appears to overlook the fact that in the year 1846, when that paper was written, we knew of only one great lake, generally called Zambre, which name, on the authority of Mr. Cooley, I regarded as a mis-spelling of Zambeze; so that, in now going back to the original name Zambre, I alter nothing but the spelling.

CHARLES BEKE.

#### THE TRADITIONAL LEGENDS OF THE BASQUES.

No. III.

FORD dismisses the Basques and their poetry with a very short and not very flattering notice:—“The Basques have a language of their own, which few but themselves can understand; nor is it worth the trouble of learning, as it is without written literature, while the conversation of the natives scarcely repays the study, nor is the enunciation easy.” Thanks to Señor Araquistain for having transferred into Castilian bits of Cantabrian life, which Ford would have been delighted to have studied and utilized. I think it is Lady Herbert who relates the joke of his Satanic Majesty's twelve-month's sojourn in Biscay with the poor result of the acquisition of only three words of the dialect. Mr. Borrow discovered the language to be of Tartar origin; certainly all those who have attempted to coerce or tame these primitive people have found them Tartars in more than language only. Liberty, Equality and Fraternity are their real, not sham, watchwords. They are a noble, hardy, honest, industrious people; their women proverbially modest and chaste:—this may account for the fierce poetical punishment both male and female frailty receives in most of their traditions. The old Basque poets pitched into erring loveliness with a vigour well worthy of imitation in cultivated capitals, where poets use pretty names to designate ugly vices. The Basque evidently will not tolerate conjugal infidelity on either side. Virtue is the same chaste vestal to the Basque she was a thousand years ago; so say ‘The Traditional Legends.’ These hardy mountaineers trace back their origin to Tubal; and there is a joke of a Vascon fighting “Cura,” who had so lost the thread of his ancestry in the clouds of the past that the fleetest greyhound could not overtake them. The following legend, less remarkable for high poetic colour than simple truth, opens with the return of some Vascons from a foray over Moorish territory. During their absence something has not been quite correct in the home of one of the absent knights, and Biscay is all grief, shame and tears. The warriors reach the traditional oak, *Malata*, which borders the province. In 1808 the French burned Guernica, and felled the oak, *Malata*, which was a giant tree when Ferdinand and Isabella, beneath its spreading branches, swore to preserve intact the ancient *Fueros* of the province; the same operation being performed by Charles the Fifth again in 1526. The following are the opening lines of ‘The Lady of Morumendi’:

They come, as the dashing surf breaks on a storm-lashed shore,

Their foam-flecked steeds all panting with pressing on before;

Each warrior clad in coat of mail, each head in helm of steel:

The river, as they ride, reflects each armed from breast to heel.

They come, and in the midst there rides a youth of gallant mien,

Proud as Amboto, crowned with mist, by early sunlight seen;

With eye fast fixed, upon the mountain side he notes the holy tree,

Shouts “Malata, the sainted oak, that shadows Biscay's liberty,

Salute him with the holiest love, as Vascon does his bride!”

Anon each sword from scabbard flies, each eye lights up with pride;

With one accord they shout that name, so dear to Vascon heart,—

The breeze which moves the whispering leaves seems to sigh its part.

But oh! in vain Esquerra looks, his dark eyes pierce the gloom—

“What, none to welcome Biscay's sons! Is that a Vascon's doom?

Andra Mari del Axpe, speak; what means this silence deep?

What happens on our mountain home? Is Biscay dead in sleep?

Aldaz, Vilela, what means it that not one our coming greets?”

All silent, each with hanging head, not one his fierce look meets.

“Why do ye still in silence ride? Where are the men-at-arms?

Where they who ate their idle bread while we braved war's alarms?

My heart will break with weight of grief; for God's sake speak my friends!

Hath our brothers all turned renegades?” Each silent forward bends;

Not one dares speak, their eyes all tears; Esquerra's flame as fires—



relating to the Meteorological Department of the Board of Trade." On the 18th of October last, a joint meeting of the Kew Committee and of the President, Vice-Presidents, and other officers of the Royal Society, took place, to take into consideration a communication which had been received by the President of the Royal Society from the Board of Trade relative to the Meteorological Department, and to consider what reply should be sent. At this joint meeting it was recommended that the Department under whose care the meteorological observations, reductions, and tabulations are to be made should be under the direction and control of a superintending scientific committee, who should (subject to the approval of the Board of Trade) have the nomination to all appointments, as well as the power of dismissing the usual officials receiving salaries or remuneration. It was also understood that, while the services of the Committee were to be gratuitous, they would yet necessarily require the services and assistance of a competent paid secretary. Finally, the draft of a reply to the above-mentioned communication from the Board of Trade was agreed to at this meeting for consideration of the Council of the Royal Society.

The Council of the Royal Society, on the 13th of December, 1866, nominated the following Fellows of the Society as the Superintending Meteorological Committee: General Sabine, Pres. R.S.; Mr. De La Rue, Mr. Francis Galton, Mr. Gassiot, Dr. W. A. Miller, Capt. Richards, Hydrographer of the Admiralty, Col. Smythe, and Mr. Sprattiswood; and, on the 3rd of January, this Committee appointed Mr. Balfour Stewart as its Secretary, on the understanding that he should, with the concurrence of the Kew Committee of the British Association, retain his present office of Superintendent of the Kew Observatory. It was also proposed that Kew Observatory should become the central observatory, at which all instruments used by or prepared for the several observatories or stations connected with the Meteorological Department should be verified; the entire expense attendant thereon, or any future expense arising through the connexion of the Observatory with the Meteorological Department, being paid from the funds supplied by the latter, and not in any way from money subscribed by the British Association. These proposals having been submitted to the Kew Committee, they approved of the Kew Observatory being regarded as the central observatory of the Meteorological Department, and of Mr. Stewart's holding the office of Secretary to the Scientific Committee superintending that Department.

When the Meteorological Department was placed under the superintendence of a scientific committee, one of the main objects contemplated was the establishment of a series of meteorological observatories, working in union with the Kew Observatory, provided with similar self-recording instruments, and distributed throughout the country in such a manner that by their means the progress of meteorological phenomena over the British Isles might be recorded with great exactness. For this purpose it was proposed to have observatories in the following places: Kew central observatory, Falmouth, Stonyhurst, Glasgow, Aberdeen [probably], Armagh, and Valencia. Such a plan, of course, involves an additional annual expenditure; but the appointment of a Committee having been sanctioned, in the first instance, by the Government, and the estimates attendant thereon afterwards by the House of Commons, the arrangement may now be regarded as established, without involving any additional expense to the British Association. The consequence will be a considerable access of work to Kew Observatory, and the duties now undertaken by that establishment may, for clearness sake, be considered under the two following heads:—

(A) The work done by Kew Observatory under the direction of the British Association.

(B) That done at Kew as the Central Observatory of the Meteorological Committee.

This system of division will be adopted in what follows of this Report.

(A) WORK DONE BY KEW OBSERVATORY UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

1. *Magnetic.*—The self-recording magnetographs ordered by the Victoria Government for Mr. Ellery, of Melbourne, have been verified at Kew, and despatched to Melbourne, where they have arrived. They will, it is believed, be very shortly in continuous action. It was mentioned in the last Report that a set of self-recording magnetographs ordered by the Stonyhurst Observatory had been verified at Kew, and despatched to their destination. These instruments are now in action at Stonyhurst, under the direction of the Rev. W. Sidgreaves. Mr. Meldrum, of the Mauritius Observatory, who is now in this country, has received at Kew instruction in the various processes of that establishment. His self-recording magnetographs have been verified in his presence, and they are now in the hands of the optician, who is awaiting Mr. Meldrum's instructions regarding them. It is hoped that very soon a considerable number of magnetographs, after the Kew pattern, will be in continuous operation at different parts of the world; and, as during the next two or three years magnetic disturbances may be expected to increase, it will be interesting to institute comparisons between the simultaneous records produced by these various instruments. The usual monthly absolute determinations of the magnetic elements continue to be made by Mr. Whipple, magnetic assistant, and the self-recording magnetographs are in constant operation as heretofore, also under Mr. Whipple, who has displayed much care and assiduity in the discharge of his duties. The photographic department connected with the self-recording instruments is under the charge of Mr. Page, who performs his duties very satisfactorily. The observations made for the purpose of determining the temperature co-efficients of the

horizontal-force and vertical-force magnetographs have been reduced.

In order to obviate the chance of any break in the continuity of the series of absolute magnetic determinations made at Kew which might arise from a change of the magnetic assistant, the Superintendent has commenced taking quarterly observations of the dip and horizontal force, with the view of correcting any change in *personal equation* which might be produced by change of assistant.

The magnetic curves produced at Kew previously to the month of January, 1865, have all been measured and reduced under the direction of General Sabine, by the staff of his office at Woolwich; and the results of this reduction have been communicated by General Sabine to the Royal Society in a series of interesting and valuable memoirs. It is now proposed that the task of tabulating and reducing these curves since the above date be performed by the staff at Kew working under the direction of Mr. Stewart.

2. *Meteorological work.*—The meteorological work of the Observatory continues in charge of Mr. Baker, who executes his duties very satisfactorily. Since the Nottingham Meeting 50 barometers have been verified; 60 thermometers have likewise been verified, and two standard thermometers have been constructed at the Observatory. The self-recording barograph continues in constant operation, and traces in duplicate are obtained, one set of which is regularly forwarded to the Meteorological Office. A self-recording barograph and thermograph on the new Kew pattern, about to be made for Mr. Ellery, of Melbourne, and a self-recording barograph for Mr. Smalley, of Sydney, will be verified at the Observatory before they are despatched to their destination. The anemometer is in constant operation as heretofore. Dr. R. Coleridge Powles, before he proceeded to Pekin, received meteorological instruction at Kew.

The well-known apparatus employed for so long a time by Mr. Robert Addams for liquefying carbonic acid has been purchased by Mr. Stewart from funds supplied by the Royal Society, and Mr. Addams has kindly undertaken to make a preliminary experiment with his apparatus, as well as to give specific instructions regarding it. As the exact thermometric value of the freezing-point of mercury has been previously determined by Mr. Stewart, it is expected that the apparatus will furnish the means of verifying thermometers at very low temperatures.

At the request of the Meteorological Committee, several aneroids have been obtained from the best-known makers of these instruments, and by means of an apparatus constructed by Mr. Beckley for this purpose, they have been compared with a standard barometer at different pressures, being meanwhile tapped so as to imitate as well as possible the tapping by the hand which these instruments are usually subjected to previous to the readings being taken. These experiments show that while aneroids cannot be considered as equal in accuracy to standard barometers, yet the best-constructed aneroids, within certain limits, give reliable results.

3. *Photographic.*—The Kew heliograph, in charge of Mr. De La Rue, continues to be worked in a satisfactory manner. During the past year 204 negatives have been taken on 144 days. Pictures of the Pagoda in Kew Gardens are regularly taken by this instrument in the hope that by this means the angular diameter of the sun may be satisfactorily determined. Since the last Meeting of the Association, a second series of solar researches, in continuation of the first series, has been published, the expense of printing having been defrayed by Mr. De La Rue, entitled "Researches in Solar Physics, Second Series. Area Measurements of the Sun-spots observed by Mr. Carrington during the seven years 1854—60 inclusive, and deductions therefrom; by Messrs. De La Rue, Stewart, and Loewy."

The heliographic latitudes and longitudes of all the spots recorded by the Kew photo-heliograph during the years 1862 and 1863 have been calculated, and it is hoped that the results may soon be published, forming a third series of Solar Researches. It is believed that these results will demonstrate the superiority of photographic pictures over all other methods of observation.

The sum of 60<sup>l</sup> has been obtained from the Government Grant Fund of the Royal Society to be applied to the discussion of Hofrat Schwabe's long and valuable series of sun-spots at present in the possession of Kew Observatory. These pictures are now being examined with this object. Sun-spots continued likewise to be numbered after the manner of Hofrat Schwabe, and a table exhibiting the monthly groups observed at Dessaun and at Kew for the year 1866 has already appeared in the Monthly Notices of the Astronomical Society, Vol. xxvii. No. 3.

4. *Apparatus for verifying Sextants.*—The apparatus constructed by Mr. Cooke, for verifying sextants, has for some time been erected at the Observatory, and a description of it has been communicated by Mr. Stewart to the Royal Society, and published in their *Proceedings*, Vol. xvi. p. 2. Seven sextants have been verified during the year.

5. *Miscellaneous work.*—The preliminary observations with Capt. Kater's pendulum, alluded to in last year's Report, have been made; but the reductions are not yet quite finished. An account of certain experiments on the heating of a disk by rapid rotation *in vacuo* has been communicated to the Royal Society by Mr. Stewart in conjunction with Prof. Tait, and has been published in the *Proceedings* of that body. The instrument devised by Mr. Broun for the purpose of estimating the magnetic dip by means of soft iron, remains at present at the Observatory, awaiting Mr. Broun's return to England. During the past year two standard yards for opticians have been compared with the Kew standard. Several instruments, chiefly magnetic, have been sent to Kew by General Sabine from his office at Woolwich. The Superintendent has received grants from the Royal Society for special experiments; and when these are completed an account will be rendered to that Society.

(B) WORK DONE AT KEW AS THE CENTRAL OBSERVATORY OF THE METEOROLOGICAL COMMITTEE.

Mr. Stewart, as Director of the Central Meteorological Observatory, having been called upon to arrange the self-recording instruments required by the Meteorological Committee, has obtained the co-operation of Mr. Beckley, mechanical assistant at Kew, from whom he has derived very great aid, and in conjunction with him has arranged the self-recording thermograph and barograph which have been adopted by the Meteorological Committee.

The following are the chief characteristics of these instruments:—

*Thermograph.*—In this instrument an air-speck, formed by a break in the mercurial column of a thermometer, allows the light of a gas-lamp to pass through it, yielding an image that is obtained on a revolving cylinder covered with photographic paper. As the cylinder revolves once in forty-eight hours, and as the thermometric column rises and falls, these motions delineate a curve, by means of which the temperature of the thermometer is denoted from moment to moment. There would be but one curve if there were only one thermometer; in practice there are two, the dry and wet bulb, the object of the first being to register the temperature of the air, and of the second to register that of evaporation. In this thermograph the simultaneous records of these two thermometers are obtained, the one under the other, on the same sheet of paper. We have thus an under-curve denoting the readings of the wet-bulb thermometer, and a curve above it denoting those of the dry-bulb thermometer.

An arrangement connected with the clock of this instrument has been proposed and executed by Mr. Beckley, by means of which the light is cut off from the sensitive paper for four minutes every two hours. A small break is thus produced every two hours on each curve, by means of which the time of any phenomenon may be easily ascertained. Drawing lines through the simultaneous breaks of the wet and dry bulb curves, a series of lines is obtained perpendicular to the direction of motion of the cylinder, which serves the purposes of a zero-line. Lastly, a Kew standard thermometer, similar in size and figure to those of the thermograph, and placed between them outside the house, is used as the standard of reference, and as such is read, by eye, five or six times a day. By this means an independent determination of the temperature of the air may be obtained from time to time.

The thermograph has been for some time ready to commence continuous registration. Hitherto this has been delayed, with the view of making experiments designed to improve the working of the instrument, because up to the present time these improvements could be easily adapted to the other instruments in course of construction. It is intended to commence the regular working of the instrument before the beginning of September.

*Barograph.*—The arrangement for cutting off the light every two hours, and the precaution of comparing the observations with those of a standard instrument, read five or six times a day, will be introduced in the barograph as well as in the thermograph. The correction of the barograph for temperature is the only thing to which it is necessary to allude. Here the curve denotes an uncorrected barometer; the zero-line is not a straight line, but is formed by the interception of the light from the cylinder by a stop, which by means of a lever arrangement rises and falls with temperature as much as the barometric column rises and falls from the same cause; that is to say, in order to find the true height of the barometer we measure between the zero-line and the line denoting the top of the uncorrected column, since when the top of the column rises or falls through temperature, the zero-line rises or falls just as much. This mode of correction, although sufficient for most purposes, cannot yet be absolutely perfect; a little reflection will, however, show that the curved zero-line may not only be used as the means of correcting the readings of the instrument, but also as giving the actual temperature of the mercurial column from moment to moment, so that the true temperature-correction may with very little trouble be obtained and applied.

A comparison of the curves of the old Kew barograph at present in operation with those of the Oxford barograph has shown that there is probably a slight adhesion of the mercury to the sides of the tube of the former instrument; moreover, the instrument is not in all respects the same as those about to be supplied to the other observatories. It has, therefore, been resolved that one of the new instruments shall be substituted for it.

*Anemometer.*—This instrument is a modification of Dr. Robinson's. Its time-scale corresponds in length with those of the thermograph and barograph, the object of having all the time-scales of the same length being to obtain the means of accurately placing the simultaneous records of the different instruments, one under the other, on the same sheet of paper. The present anemometer will have to be altered, as it is not self-recording for direction; and it is then intended to support it above the movable dome of the Observatory, so as to be independent of it.

In order to fit the Observatory for the purposes of the Meteorological Committee, one of the outbuildings at present only occasionally used for the verification of magnetographs has been altered, so as to make it also available for the verification of meteorological self-recording instruments. This, together with the addition of a small brick building outside, will be sufficient for the purposes of the Meteorological Committee. When this building is completed, it will receive all the movable iron at present in the Observatory. This arrangement will at the same time set free the present workshop, additional rooms being required for the increasing work of the Observatory.

J. P. GASSIOT, Chairman.

Kew Observatory, August 22, 1867.

*Accounts of the Kew Committee of the British Association from August 22, 1866, to Sept. 4, 1867.*

RECEIPTS.	
Balance from last account	£22 9 9
Received from the General Treasurer	600 0 0
For the Verification of Meteorological Instruments—	
From the Meteorological Office	22 19 0
From opticians	31 9 2
For Barograph Curves sent to the Meteorological Office, London	20 0 0
For the Verification of Self-recording Magnetographs	60 0 0
From Prof. Roscoe, for time employed in making actinic observations	24 0 0
	£780 17 11

PAYMENTS.

Salaries, &c.:	
To B. Stewart, four quarters, ending 1st October, 1867	£200 0 0
Ditto, allowed for petty travelling expenses	10 0 0
G. Whipple, four quarters, ending 18th September, 1867	100 0 0
T. Baker, four quarters, ending 29th September, 1867	75 0 0
F. Page, two quarters, at 40s. per annum	20 0 0
Ditto, two quarters, ending 2nd October, 1867, at 50s. per annum	25 0 0
R. Beckley, 54 weeks, ending 2nd September, 1867, at 40s. per week	103 0 0
Apparatus, materials, tools, &c.	51 14 8
Ironmonger, carpenter, and mason	18 18 3
Printing, stationery, books, and postage	56 19 2
Coals and gas	49 7 0
House expenses, chandlery, &c.	27 16 8
Porterage and petty expenses	26 14 10
Rent of land to 10th October, 1867	11 0 0
Bushwood for ditch	1 5 0
Balance	10 2 4
	£780 17 11

I have examined the above account and compared it with the vouchers presented to me.

The balance from the last year	£22 9 9
Received from the Treasurer of the British Association	600 0 0
From sundries, for the construction and verification of instruments	164 8 2

The total expenditure for the year	£786 17 11
	776 15 7

Leaving a balance in hand amounting to £10 2 4  
15th August, 1867.

R. HUTTON.

The Parliamentary Report followed:—

*Report of the Parliamentary Committee.*

"The Parliamentary Committee have the honour to report as follows:—Your Committee have to express their regret that the Public Schools Bill has again failed to obtain the sanction of the Legislature; but it is a subject for congratulation that the discussions in Parliament and elsewhere, which have followed its introduction, have already borne fruit. The attention of the public appears to have been awakened to the necessity for introducing scientific teaching into our Schools, if we are not willing to sink into a condition of inferiority as regards both intellectual culture and skill in Art, when compared with foreign nations. The voluntary efforts of the Masters of two of our great schools to add instruction in Natural Science to the ordinary Classical course are deserving of all praise; and some evidence of their success may be derived from the interesting fact—disclosed in the able Report of the Committee appointed by the Council of the Association to consider this subject—that some of the boys at Harrow have formed themselves into a voluntary Association for the pursuit of Science.

"Your Committee have communicated to the Lord Chancellor the Reports of the Committee on Scientific Evidence in Courts of Law, and his Lordship has promised to consider the subject during the recess.

"The Chairman of your Committee has also lately been in communication with the President of the Board of Trade, with the object of prevailing on the Government to amend the unsatisfactory provisions now in force, under the authority of the Merchant Shipping Act, for securing the proper adjustment of the Compasses of the iron-built ships of the Mercantile Marine.

"This measure was strongly and ably advocated by the President and Council of the Royal Society, in a correspondence which passed between them and the Board of Trade in 1865, but hitherto without success. "WROTTESLEY, Chairman."

"31st August, 1867."

After this followed a long Report of the Committee appointed last year by the Council of the British Association to consider the best means for promoting Scientific Education in Schools.

Grant Duff, Esq. M.P. and Sir John Lubbock proposed the adoption of this Report, concurring in the modest recommendations of the Committee, on the ground that it was practically sufficient at present to secure a footing for Natural Science in the course of education pursued in the universities and public schools.

The election of Sectional Officers was then confirmed.

In the evening, a large assembly of ladies and gentlemen appeared in Kinnaird's Hall to hear the Duke of Buccleuch's speech.

*The President's Address.*

Gentlemen of the British Association,—As to what has fallen from Sir Roderick Murchison, I feel that, whatever bold deeds my ancestors may have done, or may have attempted, perhaps in one sense I have attempted the boldest of them all. If it were only a question of physical endurance, or of dashing enterprise, I should not have felt abashed, nor shy, nor disinclined for the encounter. I think the old spirit of the Borderer would have carried me through. It is quite true that no man has any right to disparage himself—no man is entitled to state that he is unworthy of the post he is called on to fill—whatever may be his private feelings as to his fitness. To state that he is unworthy is not only a disparagement to himself, but is no compliment to those who thought him worthy of being placed there. I shall neither pay to myself, nor to those honourable gentlemen so unworthy a compliment as that; I will confess, that though I may be considered fit for the post, I feel myself unequal to the task. I have been recommended to study, and I have studied with care the eloquent addresses that have been made upon former occasions by those distinguished gentlemen who have preceded me in the chair which I have now the honour to occupy. I have been told, as a reason, that it is better and more usual upon such a great occasion for the President to prepare his address beforehand, to commit it to writing, and give an opportunity of having it put in print for the convenience of the members of the Association, and also for that of those whose particular vocation and duty it is to communicate to the public that which passes at these public meetings. Unfortunately, perhaps, for myself, and still more unfortunately for you, I have not so done. I never in my life attempted to pen an address or to prepare a written speech to be delivered. If I had done so, and had had recourse to the productions of the pens and heads of others, I might have read an address to you in flowing language—full of science, full of information; but I could not have pretended that what I read came from myself. I preferred then rather to fail by speaking what I had to say direct from myself, as it came from my heart and from my head, than to have recourse to the assistance—although most valuable it would have been—of the thoughts and pens of others. Their pens and their thoughts have been well employed. You may read their productions in the *Transactions* of this Association. You may hear them at the different Sections, which you are invited to attend. Why, then, should I call upon them, and rob them of the fruits of the labour and of the toil which they have expended on those necessarily carefully prepared addresses for their different Sections. For, ladies and gentlemen, let me tell you that, when learned men have to address a learned body, every word, every sentence—even the very turn of a sentence, and the words employed in it, are keenly scrutinized and closely weighed. The misplacement of a single word therein—perhaps we may say the giving too much vocal stress upon one portion of a sentence, as compared with another—may convey a totally different impression from that which the person addressing you intended to convey. An audience may be misled by an unfortunate slip of the pen, or a slight error in the delivery of an address. I have said too much already, perhaps, in the way of apology

for my position here, although, until I have been convicted of a fault, until I have been proved to have been deficient in respect of this Association, or in respect of this vast audience I see before me, I am not prepared in anticipation to make apology. I will neither deprecate wrath nor ask forgiveness until I feel that I have laid myself open to the necessity of so requesting. Whatever I may say here, I alone am responsible, but I trust that nothing I shall advance will be hostile to the feelings, intentions or merits of this Association. When I consider the nature and intention of this great Association—for great it is, powerful for good, and, if ill-directed, I fear powerful for evil, although I trust such never can be the case—I cannot but feel, and I am sure you will all agree with me that one of the greatest gifts which Providence has bestowed upon man is great intellectual power. I do not mean the ordinary faculty of reasoning which is given to man, and which he possesses above all the other living works of the Creator; I do not mean that, but that to some in greater degree, and to others in a lesser degree, intellectual power is given—not to be idly used or vaunted of, but as a sacred gift, and one to be made much of. It is a talent of the highest price; it is a talent vouchsafed to but few. There may be many more who possess it unknowingly, but who unfortunately either have not had the opportunity or the will to avail themselves of it. Happy are those men themselves, and blessed is it for this country and for the world, when they who have the intellectual power have also the will to exercise it, the power to exercise it, and to direct it aright. It varies in different persons; it is not the same in all. With some you see it take the form of the great statesman, the great warrior or the mariner, the great discoverer or traveller. You see it in all the great branches of science. You will rarely see that any one man possesses the full intellectual power to make himself master of the whole grasp of science. But then we see the great mind seizing upon that particular topic or branch which is most congenial to his spirit. He will work it out assiduously and continuously and with will, not for the purpose solely of aggrandizement to himself, or acquiring to himself or keeping for himself a great amount of knowledge in that particular branch, but of communicating it to the public for the general benefit of the commonwealth.

Ladies and Gentlemen, this reminds me that since the last meeting of this Association, and within a very short time, one most distinguished member of it has been gathered to his fathers—I mean Prof. Faraday—one of the most distinguished men in his own branch of science, one who having great intellectual power, and having great personal will, was determined to rise above that position in life in which he happened to be born. Happily for him he took a line, and sought a friend in one who was well able to forward his views; and I believe that in his own department of science no man was more prominent than Prof. Faraday lived to become. In him we have to mourn one that is lost; but when we mourn one that is lost, is it not an incentive to many others who may have been born in the same position as himself, or, may, perhaps, have been born in other positions, in higher and better positions, to seize every opportunity of cultivating science, and instructing themselves in every way? Is it not an incentive to every man who may feel himself possessed of the power to push himself forward quietly, unostentatiously, but at the same time, not for the personal pride of position, but for the more generous ambition of being a great benefactor to his country. I may be wrong, or I may be right—many may agree with me, or some may disagree with me—but I hold that the acquirements of science, and that the diffusion of science, are, and ought to be, closely connected with true religion. If there is anything that has often struck me, it is this, that the involuntary admission and confession of the ignorance of man is in no way more strongly manifested than it is in the great desire to acquire knowledge—that the inquisitiveness of man indicates previous ignorance of that which he inquires into. Now, what do men

of science cannot where, no experiments results; right. I instance is upon of us who it, cannot man who science is natural and we state. By these this works— all under only att men make their po discover meeting—name public the cur agree at all c push it and the make t may at think is elem taste for those v incline. You c can te turn f Latin scienc relati ing m ther f are at perity scienc of man that t go to prep and Do w to na port and Ther of the chen requi to r raw of c we do old and why the go the che we and dea and

of science do? They search the heavens. They cannot make the stars—they know not when, nor where, nor how they were made. But from their experiments and theories they deduced certain results; and we are satisfied that they may be right. I am here talking of faith. Surely in no instance is faith more tried than when we are called upon to believe in what science teaches us. Those of us who are uninitiated, who have not studied it, cannot understand this or that thing which a man who has studied that particular branch of science looks upon as a thing as common and as natural as that the child should learn its alphabet; and we trust in them—we believe in what they state. But what is it they do? They do not create these things. Their great object, as I can perceive, is this—they try to interpret the great Maker's works—to make them patent to all—to let all understand and reverence the Creator, they only attempting to be the interpreters. Some men may say I put too low an estimate upon their position. I trust I do not—it is not my intention to do so; but at the same time I cannot put discoverers of that which exists in a higher position than the Author of that which is discovered. We heard to-day, at the preliminary meeting, a report made upon an important matter—namely, that of having Science taught at our public schools—that it should form a portion of the curriculum of study in every school. I quite agree with it; but I think you must not undertake, at all events in the first instance, to attempt to push it too far. If you do, you will frighten people, and the thing will stop. They will say you want to make the boys all juvenile philosophers. Now, you may attempt that, but I defy you to succeed. I think it of great importance, however, to teach the elements of science in our schools. Give youths a taste for it, and when they have acquired this taste, those who have an aptitude will each be very much inclined to follow a particular science for himself. You can no more drive science into a boy than you can teach mathematics to a horse. If he has not a turn for it, he will say it is a greater bore than Latin or Greek; but to teach him the elements of science is of great importance. What do we see every day? This is an age of progression. In every relation of life the discoveries of science are becoming more and more necessary. I need not go further for an illustration than the town in which we are at present assembled. Where would the prosperity of this town have been had it not been for science? You will say we have got a certain amount of manufactures of flax, hemp, jute, and things of that sort; there is not much science in that. Well, go to the cultivation of these plants—go on to the preparation of these plants after they are cultivated, and the means of bringing them to this country. Do we not require science to build those ships, and to navigate them? and when those vessels come to port do we not require science to produce the docks and harbours in which these vessels are to lie? Then, again, when you come to the manufacture of the raw material, do we not require science in chemistry and in mechanics? In mechanics we require mathematics to begin with, with all those inventive faculties which are necessary to produce the machinery by which all these raw materials are to be made into useful articles of commerce. Is it not also the case when we come to cultivate the soil? What do people do now? Is it the rule of thumb process—the old story, that you must lime here on one farm, and manure there on another? And when you ask why? the answer is, it stands to reason—because the soil requires that. Standing to reason is a very good answer; but the man who gives it goes by the rule of thumb. We want the man of science, of chemistry, to tell us why we do these things—why we apply one description of manure to one soil and another to another; and why, if we apply this description of manure to one place and not to another, we apply it wrongly.

Again, we have many other branches. Take Geology, for instance. How many hundreds of thousands of pounds might have been saved in this country, to individuals and to companies, if the science of Geology had been better understood? People have yet a very extraordinary idea of geo-

logy? Oh, these geologists! they say; "they manufacture the world—they create all the different formations of the world—at least, they fancy they can, or some previous geologist has done so for them." They talk about all the different series of rocks—the secondary, the tertiary, and so on—I do not know how many kinds of tertiary; but what do they do? They do not pretend to create—they have very great difficulty, moreover, in explaining how these different layers were created, but they have studied the subject so well, that they can tell you in what part of the country you may find certain minerals, and in what other parts you may spend a mint of money and find none. I am sure it would be difficult to say how many hundreds of thousands have been sunk in loss in seeking for that wonderful vein of gold in the shape of coal, and in doing other things, which nobody would have dreamt of doing if a question had been asked of any ordinary geologist. And when I speak of geology, it puts me in mind of another point.

I was talking a little while ago of scientific education in schools. We want scientific education in our Universities. We want to have natural and physical science taught in our Universities. It is not many months ago since a powerful effort was made to get an endowment for a Geological Chair in Edinburgh, which, we might say, is the cradle of Geology, where it took its rise and flourished particularly; and not only that, but Edinburgh happens to stand in a peculiar geological formation, where almost every remarkable phenomenon is to be found connected with geology. Unfortunately, that attempt was simply snuffed out. It met with a very cold reception. We were told—"Oh, if you want to endow a chair in Edinburgh, endow it yourselves." In vain did we say that endeavours had been made to endow the University of Edinburgh, which happens to be very poorly endowed; but that as the efforts and contributions of almost all those who responded to the applications have been directed to founding scholarships and bursaries to enable poor students who thirst for knowledge to avail themselves of the knowledge which might be afforded them; and we thought the public purse might well afford a Professor to teach them that which it was of really national importance they should learn.

I cannot pretend to go through all the different subjects which are taken up in the Sections of this Association. I will only call your attention to one in which I take some interest—namely, Meteorology. There, great efforts have been made, and with signal success, by the British Association, more particularly at the Kew Observatory. What I and others have urged on the Government of the day is the great importance of having renewed and carried on what were called the Storm Signals at our different ports. I do not mean that we have asked the Meteorological Department of the Board of Trade to turn themselves into weather prophets—to give us forecasts of weather—but, as they have the power of ascertaining the prevailing winds and storms by telegraphic communication over the whole of this country, and over the continent of Europe—over all the shores at least, and to very distant parts—they can inform us where there are great disturbances of the elements prevailing. For instance, there may be a tremendous gale of wind on the south coast of Ireland, and in the entrance to the Channel. Notice of that being telegraphed to Glasgow and to Liverpool, and to all the ports upon the west coast, the commanders of vessels would hesitate to set sail when they heard by those telegrams of the storms raging in these very parts of the seas which they knew they must enter and pass within a very few hours. This knowledge is of immense value and importance; and I believe much valuable property has been saved, and many valuable lives preserved by the timely hoisting of the drum signifying bad weather; those interested can easily by application ascertain where that bad weather is. At the Firth of Forth I have seen the drum hoisted indicating tremendous storms of wind, and the risks that may be run, while yet not a breath of wind was blowing at that particular quarter. Though they may have been there out of the centre of the storm, which perhaps was raging in the

extreme north, yet, by proper warning, masters may have been hindered from putting out to sea, while some, who would not regard this warning, might have said, "We might just as well go out to sea, as there is not a breath of wind here." But then, there comes the newspaper, twenty-four or eighty hours afterwards, and tells of disastrous shipwrecks upon no very far distant portions of the coast. I have only given this as an indication, because it is one subject in which I take particular interest, and therefore I bring it before you.

Well, the great thing I may say with regard to this Association is that it is not exclusive nor reclusive. It will neither expel nor repel others, nor will it seek to include within its sphere other Societies that ought more properly to be by themselves. But I believe it would be very good thing for this Society, and for the country generally, if a great many more Scientific Associations springing up throughout the country were, as I may call it, affiliated with us—looking to this Society as their head director and sustainer.

I do not know, Gentlemen, that I have any right to trespass any more upon your time—I have trespassed already too long, perhaps. I will not say my matter fails me, for that would be an admission of ignorance, or of not paying proper attention to what might be required of me on this occasion, but I will say, with regard to that, that my power rather fails me in going much further. You must all be well aware of the excessive heat of this room. You may depend upon it that the excitement consequent upon the position in which I am placed, and the physical effort which I am obliged to make in attempting to make myself heard by all here present, are both very great strains upon my power. And I am warned at this moment, having had a bad throat when I came into this room, that if I do not ask you to excuse me from further addressing you, and should attempt to go further, I should find my voice entirely fail, rendering me unfit for any further work.

I must now, in conclusion, be allowed simply to thank the gentlemen of the British Association for the Advancement of Science for the honour they have done me in placing me in this chair. I know it is no slight honour—I feel it is no slight honour—but, so far as in me lies, I will endeavour faithfully to perform my duties, and I hope these duties will not be so performed as to show that you have been deceived in having selected a person for this high position who was unfit to be in this chair.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THE Queen's book, of which we announced the completion some months ago, has been printed, and will shortly be given to the public. Her Majesty describes, in her own fresh and feminine style, a series of journeys, chiefly made by the royal party in Scotland. A good deal of guide-book matter is thrown into the narrative, and there are many pleasant references to her travelling companions and servants. From this book the public will learn something authentic about the Prince Consort's gillie, who has recently attained a sort of grotesque notoriety.

The Early English Text Society issues this week—1. 'The Vision of William concerning Piers Plowman, together with Vita de Dowel, Dobet, et Dobest, secundum Wit et Resoun, by William Langland, 1362 A.D.,' edited from the Vernon MS., collated with five other MSS., by the Rev. Walter W. Skeat, M.A., late Fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge. 2. Lewis's 'Manipulus Verborum,' our earliest Rhyming Dictionary, 1570 A.D., edited by Henry B. Wheatley, Esq. These are the fourth and fifth books issued by the Society this year. The sixth will be Mr. Toulmin Smith's 'English Gilds'; and if sufficient fresh subscriptions are received before the end of the year, a seventh text will be given, Mr. Skeat's edition of 'Piers Plowman's Crede.' This edition is now ready. It is based on the Trinity College MS., collated with the British Museum one, and Wolfe's first printed edition. It rejects the curious interpolation by Wolfe about the doctrine of the Real Presence, restores the reading of the MSS., has a full Introduction, Notes and Glossary, and is

accompanied by the curious and interesting poem, 'God spede the Plough.'

Sir David Brewster writes:—

"Alerly, Melrose, Aug. 30, 1867,

"You would oblige me greatly by correcting an error of the press in my letter of the 19th August, as it may have a very disagreeable application. For 'our French *foe* across the Channel,' read 'our French *friends* across the Channel.' Yours, &c.

"D. BREWSTER."

The Pascal letters begin to pass a joke. The Institute appointed a commission to report upon them, and this commission in a few days resigned its function, on the ground that sufficient information was not laid before it. It is understood that there is a refusal to state the source from whence they came. It was quite right that the commission should have been appointed; and now, we suppose, the matter will drop, so far as that body is concerned. Sir D. Brewster has written to the Institute a letter very much resembling the one which appeared in our columns. The name *Ayscough*, when it occurs the second time, is replaced, as it ought to be, by *Smith*. Newton's mother was born *Ayscough*, and became by marriage first *Newton*, then *Smith*.

Everybody will be glad to hear that the paragraph now running through the press, to the effect that Mr. Charles Dickens is suffering from an acute and mysterious disease,—thereby causing that gentleman's friends, the whole reading public, very great alarm,—has no foundation of truth whatever. Mr. Dickens is living at his pleasant Kentish house, busy with his work, and enjoying the most perfect health; combining, to use a few of his own words, his "usual sedentary powers with the training of a prize-fighter."

Mr. J. H. Burton, whose 'History of Scotland' has been recently noticed in these columns, has been appointed by Lord Derby to the office of Royal Historiographer of his native land.

Mr. John MacGillivray, late naturalist of H.M.S. Rattlesnake, died at Sydney on the 6th of June. He had just returned from an expedition to the Richmond River, and was preparing to leave for the islands of the South Pacific, when his career of usefulness was cut short by death. John MacGillivray was the eldest son of the late William MacGillivray, Regius Professor of Natural History, Marischal College, Aberdeen. He spent his early years in Edinburgh, and exhibited from boyhood a taste for those branches of natural science which his father cultivated with so much success. He was intended for the medical profession, and had all but completed his studies when the late Lord Derby offered him the appointment of naturalist on board H.M.S. Fly, which was about to make the voyage round the world. On his return to England, he was appointed naturalist to H.M.S. Rattlesnake, employed on the Government Survey, and recorded the results of a three years' cruise in two interesting volumes, which were favourably received by the public and the leading literary journals of the day. His next appointment brought him to Sydney in 1856, and the rest of his life was devoted to scientific investigations into the natural history of Australia and the neighbouring islands. He spent nearly five years among the savage inhabitants of the South Sea Islands, where he had many strange adventures and hair-breadth escapes. He had a wonderful power of gaining the confidence and adapting himself to the manners of the cannibal tribes among whom he lived. Constant exposure and hardship gradually undermined his vigorous constitution, and superinduced the disease which brought his active life to a close.

Dr. Gray writes in reference to the grave of Sir Joseph Banks:—

"British Museum, Aug. 31, 1867.

"I had no intention to induce 'persons to believe that the memory of Sir Joseph Banks was not duly honoured' by his family or friends. I was fully aware that not only is there a statue executed by Chantrey in the British Museum, but also a bronze bust and a portrait by T. Phillips, of which there is a beautifully executed engraving published. The terms of his will sufficiently indicate the reason why no monument was erected at the

time in Heston Church, and also why he was there buried, instead of being taken to his family residence in Lincolnshire. From an abstract of his will, which has just been shown me, and which is not mentioned in Mr. Weld's or in any of his biographies, it appears that he 'expressly desired that his body be interred in the most private manner in the church or churchyard of the parish in which he shall happen to die, and entreats his dear relatives to spare themselves the affliction of attending the ceremony, and earnestly requests that they will not erect any monument to his memory.' These wishes were very properly carried out to the letter, at least as far as regards the place of interment and the non-erection of a monument; but they form no reason why, at this distance of time, a simple tablet, expressive of the fact that so distinguished a man lies buried in the church, should not be placed there.—JOHN EDW. GRAY."

Mr. John Oxenford, the most learned and expert of dramatic critics, is in New York, from which city he is sending to the *Times* those delightful papers on the American stage by a London playgoer, which appear from time to time in the daily journal.

A Correspondent of the *Standard*, "T. H.," gives the following account of Faraday's introduction to Sir H. Davy (August 31)—"About the year 1833, the year in which Faraday was elected lecturer at the Royal Institution, I was in company with Mr. Woodward, the then president of the Literary and Scientific Institution at Islington. The conversation turned to the Professor's appointment, and Mr. Woodward said, 'Faraday and myself were apprentices together to a bookseller and binder, and each having a great love for chemistry, attended Sir H. Davy's lectures, of which we took copious notes. One morning, Sir Davy came into our place of business and requested to be shown some patterns for binding his own notes and lectures, and after rejecting a great many, said to Faraday, "You have not shown me that one on the shelf behind you," to which he replied, "It is only a memorandum-book of my own." "Perhaps," said Sir H. Davy, "you will let me see it." He did so, and on turning it about, Sir H. Davy saw it contained notes on chemistry, in which he recognized remarks made at his own lectures. He immediately asked, "Are you fond of chemistry?" and met with the reply, "Very!" upon which Sir H. Davy rejoined, "Come into my laboratory after the next lecture, and we will see what you know about it." He did so, and was afterwards allowed the use of the laboratory, and the interview resulted in his introduction to Prof. Brande." This differs in all respects from Faraday's account, as we gave it last week from his own letter to Dr. Paris. Faraday wrote to Sir H. Davy, and forwarded his note-book. It would be a very unusual and indecent thing for a casual customer at a shop to ask to look at a journeyman's private memorandum book. We give this as a specimen of the way in which anecdotes are produced.—Two days afterwards, Mr. Woodward replies as follows—"I beg to say that I never was apprenticed either to a bookseller or to any other trade, and did not at that time attend Sir H. Davy's lectures; neither did I say that it was the late Sir H. Davy who took up the book alluded to. But I have occasionally said in conversation that Dr. Faraday and I were members of a private philosophical society about the year 1812, and that we, as amateurs, had delivered our first lectures before the members of that society, and that it was through the interest of a friend of the late Sir H. Davy, who had seen Faraday's bound book, that the latter was introduced to the former." And so ends this birth-strangled anecdote.

Mr. Maccabe, the extraordinary ventriloquist and entertainer, commenced a series of performances on Monday at the Egyptian Hall. His programme is ample and various, and he still does wonders in the way of impersonation. His changes are instantaneous, and he passes from one character to another with equal facility and felicity. For the ease with which his assumptions are realized, he is, we think, without a rival.

With regard to our suggestion of last week, that a memorial should be erected to De Foe in Bunhill Field, a Correspondent objects that the famous author had but weak ideas on the subject of negro slavery, and that we should err in not condemning, much more in actively applauding, his neglect to mark with disapprobation the cool manner in which he records the sale of Xury by Robinson Crusoe. Our Correspondent adds, that had De Foe been so warm an advocate for freedom as has been represented,—that is, not simple freedom of opinion, still less mere freedom of the press,—he would have seized this incident in the famous adventures of the mariner of York, and "improved the occasion" in the true missionary fashion. To this we may demur.—1. That De Foe was not Robinson Crusoe. 2. That Xury was not a negro Christian, but a Mohammedan by birth, if not by conviction and education. 3. That after the picking up of Crusoe and Xury by the captain of the Portuguese slaver, the last purchased the boat of their escape with a note-of-hand for eighty pieces of eight, payable in Brazil (the precise value of a piece of eight in that country at this period would be rather hard to define); and offered sixty pieces of the same value—no doubt another "bill"—for Xury. Our Correspondent has not recently looked into his 'Robinson Crusoe,' or he would have observed the careful manner in which this incident is marked by the author, who, with reference to this very handsome offer, wrote:—"I was loth to take (it), not that I was unwilling to let the captain have him, but I was very loth to sell the poor boy's liberty who had assisted me so faithfully in procuring my own. However, when I let him know my reason, he owned it to be just, and offered me this medium, that he would give the boy an obligation to set him free in ten years if he turned Christian. Upon this, and Xury saying he was willing to go to him, I let the captain have him,"—and, although news would be welcome, we hear no more of Xury either in the 'Adventures' or elsewhere. It is very easy to call in question the morality of this transaction; but considering the circumstances, the times, the views of Crusoe on slavery, from which he had just escaped, and his great difficulty in disposing of his white elephant of a Mohammedan lad, it is hard to say what choice offered itself without discrediting the captain who acted with so much generosity. Some sea captains of much later dates than this would have made slaves of Crusoe and Xury, and, as such, sold them in the Plantations. 4. As to De Foe and Crusoe, the former does not seem to have had a meaning, which may have escaped our Correspondent, in making the long island captivity of the latter at "the mouth of the great river Orinoco" to be the direct result of his slave-dealing expedition, which was a smuggling one to boot. It cannot be denied, however, that Crusoe had a slave on his Brazilian voyage; he owns it without reserve: but then, as we said before, Crusoe was not De Foe.

The Railway over Mont Cenis between St. Michel and Susa is completed. A train passed between the two towns last week. The distance is forty-eight miles. St. Michel is 2,493 feet above the sea, Lanslebourg is 2,039 feet higher, and the summit, about six miles from Lanslebourg, is 6,332 feet above the sea. On this section 2,210 feet is ascended by an average gradient of 1 in 14. From Susa to the summit the average gradient is 1 in 17. The Fell system of traction has been adopted, and was found very efficient on the trial trip. It is expected that the line will be open for public traffic early in October.

The Annual Report of the Cotton Supply Association recently published contains several interesting particulars with reference to the future supply of cotton. Apprehending that the Southern States of America in their altered condition will not furnish cotton so abundantly as before the war, great exertions have been made by the Association to extend and improve the cultivation of this plant in other countries. With this view, an address has been translated into the different languages spoken where cotton is grown, and widely distributed; and packets of the best cotton-seed, to the amount of 3,209 cwt., have been sent to different countries. The result is that in Turkey, India, the Brazils,

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Smyrna, and elsewhere, a superior description of cotton is already produced, which has realized in Liverpool nearly as high a price as that grown in the United States. The Association are so encouraged by the experience of the past year, that they look with increased confidence to India, in consequence of the gratifying results which have attended the efforts to improve indigenous cotton, and to introduce exotic varieties more extensively.

MR. MORBY'S COLLECTION OF MODERN HIGH-CLASS PICTURES IS ON VIEW at the Royal Exchange Fine Arts Gallery, 54, Cornhill. This Collection contains examples of John Phillip, R.A.—Millais, R.A.—Clarkson Stanfield, R.A.—John Linnell—Peter Graham—Leslie, R.A.—D. Roberts, R.A.—E. M. Ward, R.A.—E. Egaeus, R.A.—R. Goodall, R.A.—Samuel, R.A.—Pilkington, R.A.—Lee, R.A.—Calderon, R.A.—A. Sartorius, R.A.—Erskine Nicol, R.A.—Le Jeune, A.R.A.—Ansell, A.R.A.—Frost, A.R.A.—H. O'Neil, A.R.A.—Pettie, A.R.A.—Yeames, A.R.A.—P. Nasmyth—Dobson, A.R.A.—Cooper, A.R.A.—H. W. M. Murray—Hardy—Loder—George Smith—Gerrard—H. W. B. Davies—Burges—Frost—Also Drawings by Hunt, Cox, Pirke, Foster, Toplitz, F. Walker, E. Warren, &c.—Admission on presentation of address card.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—See the PARIS EXPOSITION for ONE SHILLING.—Professor Pepper's Lectures on the PALAIS DE L'EXPOSITION, daily, at Three and Eight. Amongst the other attractions are, the WONDERFUL EQUITARD, the great Optical Surprise, called the EFFIGY of the DEAR DEFUNCT, and the Musical Entertainments of Damer Cape, Esq.

#### FINE ARTS

##### TITIAN'S 'PETER MARTYR.'

The following notes about the history of Titian's 'Peter Martyr,' or 'Death of St. Peter, Martyr,' recently burnt in the church of SS. John and Paul (San Zanipolo), Venice, may interest some among our readers. It is almost needless to write that this picture was reputed to be the masterpiece of the world in colour, chiaroscuro and dramatic combination of the elements of design, as Titian understood those characteristics. It afforded a marvellously effective, though certainly not the earliest, example of pathetic landscape-painting. For action and expression, from the face of the Dominican himself to the draperies of his slayer, and those of the friar his companion, nothing surpassed this design. We write 'reputed,' because so deep has been the gathered gloom of candle-smoke and potent the effects of other agencies, damp and bad air among them, which have been operating since 1528, when it was placed in the chapel of the 'Saint' whose death it represented, that travellers were compelled to take much for granted on the points in question. The difficulty of forming an opinion on this head was much enhanced by the elevated position of the painting at the altar of the chapel. It is needless to add, that the common guide-book association of this painting as one of a trio in perfection, of which Raphael's 'Transfiguration,' and 'The Communion of St. Jerome,' by Domenichino, now in the Vatican, is, as regards the last, simply absurd. A fine picture in its mode, the Domenichino does not approach the other two works. Andrea Sacchi and Poussin made a comparison between it and the Raphael, but with liminary views, and according to standards that would not now be employed. As to the Titian itself, every critic will not rank it with the Raphael, although, as representing to the highest a noble variety in designing, doubtless it was without rivals. As to St. Peter, Martyr, himself, he was a Veronese, born about the year 1205, descended from sectarian, or rather heretical, parents; but being sent to an orthodox school, he followed the ordinary modes of belief and worship, and suffered accordingly from his friends. St. Dominic, under whose influence he fell at an early age, trained him as a preacher, in which vocation he distinguished himself by the passionate intolerance and ferocity of his denunciations of heretics. Appointed by Honorius the Third to the very apt office of Inquisitor-General, he distinguished himself even in that age by the ruthlessness with which he acted, and consequently received as much of the admiration of one party as of the hatred of the other. Wearyed out by persecution, it seems that many persons had threatened this minister of Christ's law; but he heeded them not, and went on his way, until a certain family of distinction in Venice, whom he had treated with peculiar bitterness, set about revenging themselves. Two of this family employed assassins, who lay in wait for him by the margin of a wood, which he

had to pass on the road from Como to Milan, and put him out of the world. The mode of vengeance was by cleaving his skull with a sort of axe, not unlike a billhook, such as is commonly represented sticking in the head of the victim; as, for example, in the picture by Filippo Lippi, No. 667, in the National Gallery, where, with five other saints, he appears seated on a garden-bench. Peter Martyr's companion was a lay-brother of his order, who, when the chief was struck down, was pursued by the murderers and slain. There is a picture in the National Gallery of this subject by Giorgione, No. 41. Titian represented the lay-brother as the foremost figure in the composition, and in the act of flying with loosened draperies, that were treated in the antique fashion, and singularly expressive in their disposition. Vasari thus describes the picture:—"San Piero, a figure larger than life, is seen extended on the earth, in a wood of very large trees; he is fiercely assailed by a soldier, who has already wounded him so grievously on the head that, although still living, the shadows of death are seen on his face. The countenance of another monk, who is flying from the scene, exhibits the utmost terror. In the air are two nude figures of angels, descending from heaven in a blaze of light, by which the picture is illuminated. These are most beautiful; as is, indeed, the whole work, which is the best and most perfectly finished, as it is the most renowned of any that Titian has yet executed. This painting having been seen by Signor Gralli, who was ever the friend of Titian as well as of Sansovino, he caused the former to receive a commission for the story of a great battle-piece to be painted in the Hall of the Grand Council (Venice), and representing the Rout of the Chiaradadda (or Turkish janissaries)—a victory of the Venetians, sometimes called the battle of Cadore. The soldiers are contending furiously, while heavy rain is falling on them. The work is wholly copied from the life, and is considered the best, most animated and most beautiful picture in the Hall." It has been remarked that Titian's pictures have been peculiarly obnoxious to destruction by fire. This is not only true as regards 'The Rout of the Chiaradadda,' which is now known only by Fontana's engraving, and, presumably, by an oil sketch now in the Uffizi (No. 669), and a drawing in the possession of Mr. J. Gilbert, of Ongar, who also possesses a study for a single figure, 'The Last Supper,' which Titian painted on the wall of the refectory in the same Dominican convent which once held the 'Peter Martyr,' and the series of three pictures which he prepared for the ceiling of the Great Hall in the Palace at Brescia, were also burnt. With regard to the murder of Peter, it is further related that, when the braves returned from despatching the lay-brother, they found him still living, and in the act of writing the word *Credo*, by way of final confession, with his finger in blood on the ground; the last event some ancient representations of the slaughter describe. Finally, he was killed by a sword-thrust. With a sword through his body, he appears in the Pitti, by Fra Angelico, and otherwise, in the same gallery, in company with St. Augustine, by A. Del Sarto. He is one of the commonest subjects in Italian Art. It was G. B. Fontana who engraved the 'Battle,' as also the 'Peter Martyr' itself. There is a tolerably satisfactory memorandum of the composition of the last-named picture in the 'Handbook of Painting, Italian School,' translated from Kugler (Murray).

49, Torrington Street, Sept. 3, 1867.

The destruction of Titian's 'Peter Martyr' may not be total. There may possibly be some fragments of canvas left unscathed, which would be valuable both in an artistic and scientific point of view; for if any such exist, a chemical analysis of the preparation and pigments adhering to them might set at rest the long-debated questions of the nature of the ground and method of painting adopted by the Venetians. If the authorities on the spot have not already thought of the remains of the pyre of the noble picture in this light, these few words through your influential columns may possibly serve as a reminder.

W. CAVE THOMAS.

#### FINE-ART GOSSIP.

A rumour has gone forth that Signor Mario's pictures, armour, manuscripts and curiosities of every kind,—the collection of years, and which, we happen to know, contains many rare and precious objects,—is about to be disposed of by public auction.

A statue of the late Lord John Scott was inaugurated at Dunchurh, near Rugby, by his brother, the Duke of Buccleuch, on Monday last. It was subscribed for by his tenantry, and is the work of J. Durham, A.R.A.

No more important work of its kind, or one more happily carried on, than the restoration of Llandaff Cathedral, commenced by Messrs. Prichard and Seddon, and now in the sole charge of the former, has been undertaken in this country. For a long time the crowning features of this admirably executed task have been delayed in production. These are the western towers, which, we are happy to learn, have been taken in hand. As this work consists of something very different from the common "restoring," which means scraping and ravaging, or making old things look new merely for the sake of "tidiness," such as we have had to record with regard to Lincoln Minster and elsewhere, we are glad to state the interesting fact. In truth, Mr. Prichard's work is completing and rebuilding an architectural element which had had strange fortunes. The task now in question is second in importance only to Mr. Street's labours in respect to the new nave of Bristol Cathedral.

The destruction of all the consumable parts of the great church of St. Bartholomew, at Frankfurt, illustrates the common danger of such buildings, which, on the Continent more than in England, stand close to factories and residences. Every one who has been in medieval cities wonders to find any churches remaining to be burnt, so commonly do booths and miserable houses of the most inflammable kind stand close to the great ecclesiastical buildings. Not long since the Church of St. Gudule, at Brussels, was cleared very effectually of its surrounding houses. Some of the famous cathedrals of the Low Countries, such as St. Rombout's, at Mechlin, stand in safe positions; others, such as the beautiful churches of St. Pierre, at Louvain, and St. Nicholas, at Ghent, show the worst defects of an encroaching and reckless system. In both these cases the spaces between the buttresses all round the exterior are filled by little houses, the roofs and chimneys of which are level with the sills of the aisle windows. In the case of St. Pierre, at Louvain, the church and town hall once stood in a large open space; but so closely has the former been inclosed that its doorways alone are approachable from the street. The following condensed account from Mr. Webb may be interesting to some of our readers as a reminder. It is dedicated to St. Bartholomew, and, until modern times, was the cathedral. Its style was Middle Pointed; the great height of the building its most striking characteristic. It comprised a nave and aisles with side chapels, transept with eastern chapels, apsidal choir, without aisles, and a chapel on the south side. The apse is trigonal, in each side of which is a triplet with fine tracery. The transept is a great deal higher than the nave and choir, and so very long as to lead some to fancy it the true nave. The east elevation of the transept presents a long facade divided by vaulting shafts into nine compartments; of these the middle one is pierced by a comparatively low arch into the choir; the others have each a large window above the small arches opening to the eastern chapels. The tracery is very good. South of the choir, entered by a small door, is the *Wahlkapelle*, or election-chapel of the Emperors; it is simply vaulted. North of the choir is a tabernacle, below which is a stone figure of a sub-deacon holding a book-rest for the Gospel. There are some inferior paintings in the choir; on the north side, mutilated canopies and sedilia; the boss of the apse vault is an *Agnes Dei*. Some good glass was in the north windows. The very lofty spire would have been a beautiful object if finished. The material is a fine red stone. In the interior were numerous coloured escutcheons of the patrician families of the city; a good Entombment in stone occupied the south transept; and a fine

Repose of the Virgin in a chapel of the north transept. An astronomical clock, dated 1460, was preserved in the north transept.

#### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

**THE BIRMINGHAM FESTIVAL.**—On the morning of Wednesday week, Dr. Bennett's sacred *Cantata*, 'The Woman of Samaria,' came to judgment. The work and its composer could not have been more favourably received. Following the fashion adopted by him in regard to the Exhibition music, Dr. Bennett, very shortly before the first London rehearsal, declined conducting his own composition on the plea of ill health, and delegated the responsibility to Mr. Cusins. How heavy this was may be inferred from the fact, that up to the moment of the Birmingham rehearsal the score was incomplete, and that some of the singers had literally only a few hours to possess themselves of the notes, not to speak of the meaning of the words. Seeing that the commission, we are told, was accepted more than a twelvemonth ago, this newest instance of a procrastination which, unluckily, seems habitual to Dr. Bennett, amounts to a want of consideration for every other person, whether managers, executants or publishers, concerned in the affair, not pleasant to contemplate in an artist of real natural endowments, superior scientific knowledge, elegance of fancy, and obvious poetical aspirations, —an artist, moreover, who is installed in the office of a Professor, one of the functions of which should be the inculcation of a sense of duty. Did the executants, on whom composers must depend, behave in like fashion, there could be no preliminary preparations—no Birmingham Festivals. It speaks volumes in praise of every one else concerned, and not the least of the deputy-conductor, Mr. Cusins, that the *Cantata* could be brought to a successful issue under such needlessly harassing circumstances.

Thus much as a matter of history, not to be overlooked by those who desire to vindicate the honour of Art and artists. To speak of the *Cantata* without reference to these circumstances, is not easy—so singular in many respects is it. The book has apparently been patched together without design or system. The incident narrated in the fourth chapter of St. John is of the utmost simplicity, not to say tenuity. The legend of Ruth, discussed not long ago, is vivid, dramatic, and full of contrast, in comparison. But Dr. Bennett's book has been eked out by devices at variance with common sense and coherence. The story is told according to the text of the Evangelist, the principal musical character being a narrator (*contralto*), who becomes the Woman of Samaria,—why, it seems hard to understand, seeing that the Woman's part is also laid out for the *soprano*. The tenor is an extra narrator, with superfluous song. The words of the Redeemer at the well are delivered (as they should be) in narration, not as in personation, by the bass voice. The choruses are introduced wherever the musician wanted them, without much reference to the incident. The majority might deck any other Biblical *Cantata* in the places where devotional sentiment, and not descriptive effect, is required. They are fitted in with gratuitous awkwardness. Take an instance. Immediately following the answer of the Saviour to the Woman, "Thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water:" the chorus, "taking up the tale," says, "For with thee is the well of life." If there was ever a case of *non sequitur*, it is here; nor is it the only one which could be specified. Perhaps the drawback of such a confused book may have told on Dr. Bennett less than it might have done on a composer to whom the colour of the words (so to say) was of more consequence. His intentions are hard to follow. The introduction in A minor  $\frac{3}{4}$ , written in a florid and almost secular style, is strange as imbedding such a jubilant *corale* as—

Ye Christian people now rejoice;

and though the tune is thrown into the form of common *tempo* by the adroit use of syncopations, the accompaniment in a different measure, however it may delight the eye, only mystifies the ear. We cannot comprehend why such words as "Come, O

Israel, let us walk as sons of light," as the soothing and yet hopeful strain of Keble's sacred song, "Abide with us,"—as the chorus of the people, "Now we believe" (three choruses in succession, following the short and impressive chorus in F minor),—should be set in minor keys. The tune to Keble's hymn is essentially that of a funeral psalm, the place of which might be the gates of Nain. Further, musical contrast, especially to be counted in a work the story of which offers such slight suggestion, has been here strangely disregarded. All the choruses, with the exception of the introduction to the last, are in square or common *tempo*. The recitative, curiously and, as has been said, capriciously divided, is, for the most part, elaborately accompanied in that *quasi-arioso* form to which Meyerbeer became so partial in his late days. This cannot be liberally introduced without heaviness and monotony of effect. "The mind of man claims rest."—Some of the instrumental phrases employed are noticeable—as, for instance, the *pizzicato* to set off the Woman's words, "Come, see a man," which curiously resembles the opening of a duet between *Corentin* and *Hoel* in "Le Pardon de Ploermel." The *Cantata* contains only three songs. That for the *soprano* in B minor, which may be called an air of parade,—based on a question without an answer—is ungracious and ineffective, and was obviously found so by Mdlle. Tietjens, who does not shine when wrestling with difficulties. The *contralto* air allotted to Madame Sainton-Dolby (and encored, as was only the due of her admirable delivery of it) was much admired. It was meant, we presume, to be devotional and humble. These words of the Saviour precede it—"For thou hast had five husbands, and he whom thou now hast is not thine husband; in that thou hast spoken truly." The Woman is made by the book to reply, "O Lord, thou hast searched me out and known me." The *ritornel* of the air, with its piquancy of rhythm, amounts to a coquettish admission of the fact, which is singular as occurring in a song meant, it may be, to pair off with "O rest in the Lord." The tenor air again, "His salvation is nigh them that fear him" (exquisitely sung by Mr. Cummings, and encored) is, in its subject, secular and trivial, though redeemed by its second portion, and by felicitous instrumentation. The bass part, to which the fullest justice was done by Mr. Santley, consists of mere fragments of recitative; some of them set in the *arioso* fashion, to which allusion has been made. Of the choruses, the best to our thinking are the second one, "Blessed be the Lord,"—the third, for six voices, "Therefore shall they come and sing" (encored),—and the final fugue. In all, the harmonies are well combined, and the structure is solid; but the subjects of none, save those of the six-part one and that which winds up the work, have the distinction of freshness. The strong point of this *Cantata* (to come to pleasanter matter of remark) is its instrumentation, which gives no small share of life to that which would otherwise be lifeless. As instances may be cited the opening of the chorus "Blessed," where the measure is effectively timed by the triangle, without the slightest theatrical association being thereby awakened; and the solemn use of the organ in the chorus, "Who is the image of the invisible God." The *Cantata* is, throughout, full of happy orchestral touches.

Such are our present impressions of the last work of a composer long waited for—to be confirmed or corrected on future acquaintance with it, as the case may be. It is the more necessary to say as much, because Dr. Bennett has wisely refused to fall into the presumptuous modern fashion of publication simultaneous with performance, thus leaving himself open to reconsider the feebler and less interesting portions of his music ere it is given out to the world.

Wednesday's performance of "Judas Maccabeus," however chorally and orchestrally excellent, can only be touched for the sake of recording the entire success of Mdlle. Christine Nilsson in oratorio. The natural nervousness attending a first attempt in a new language on so august an occasion rapidly passed off. Her beautiful voice told admirably; her declamation and pronunciation are surprisingly

good; and her execution is as thoroughly finished in Handel's *bravura* music as in the great songs of *Astrifiamante*, by which she was first made known in France, or the *bravura* from "La Traviata," which at once set her in a high place here. Mdlle. Nilsson's appearance has been one of the marking events of this splendid Festival: from first to last, a well-deserved triumph.

Wednesday evening's concert was opened by Mr. Benedict's "St. Cecilia," a work of which there is no need to speak again, its established success being beyond question. Its first performance at Birmingham, however, may be said to have taken place with drawbacks. After the excitement of such a morning performance, there must be a collapse of enthusiasm both on the part of artists and audience. The music, again, is generally of too serious, not to say sacred, a character, to befit an evening concert, following two oratorios in the earlier part of the day. These things must be allowed for when comparing the performance and reception of the *Cantata* with those of other music given during the week. But the superb and poetical music of the last scene, which displays Mdlle. Tietjens to her utmost advantage, proved, as usual, irresistible. The composer and artist were most warmly greeted at the close of the performance. The Birmingham Directors have at last solved the problem of attracting concert-audiences by complete *Cantatas*, in place of flimsy and fragmentary miscellaneous selections. On no former occasion have the evening entertainments been so largely frequented, or, throughout, been so intelligently and warmly enjoyed, though the allowance of music has, by every one, been felt as too liberal. Madame Arabella Goddard was heard to her greatest advantage on Wednesday evening in Dr. Bennett's fourth and best *Pianoforte Concerto*—the one in F minor. She has never played more finely.

"The Messiah" was given, according to usage, on Thursday morning. Fuller the hall, more closely packed the audience, could not have been—very many persons being unable to gain admittance. Yet the interest (with some almost amounting to devotional reverence) which will attend this "sacred Oratorio" in England, till Music shall be heard within its borders no more, seemed in no respect to have diminished the eagerness of the public to enjoy the evening's concert and its *Cantata*. This was Mr. J. Francis Barnett's "Ancient Mariner," a work which, from the first, we are told, had been adopted with peculiar zeal by the Birmingham chorus; which admirable body, accordingly, showed itself more than usually alert and effective. We cannot think the composer wise in having selected as subject a legend full of terror, surprise, and contrasted description, which is, nevertheless, a monologue,—the poem and the arresting nature of a tale which holds "the wedding guest" spell-bound, gaining power and climax from the circumstance of the narrative being in the mouth of one person. To have followed this implicitly would have been, however, fatally to imperil the musical interest. Mr. Barnett ha., accordingly, distributed the portions of the *Ancient Mariner's* confession which he has selected at his arbitrary pleasure—giving the verses to every principal voice one after another, sometimes to a solo quartett, sometimes to a chorus; thus only distantly illustrating Coleridge's poem. Nor is this the only point in which he has bent the words to his uses for the sake of attending to the conventionalisms of musical form. To cite one instance: among many, in the spirited narration of the voyage home (a bass song, perfectly given by Mr. Santley), after his coming back, and the half-dreamy amazement, delight and relief of the storm-tossed seaman, the last of the crew, among the familiar objects of his "own country," with which, or with that burst of prayer,

O let me be awake, my God!

Or let me sleep alway!

the song should have concluded, Mr. Barnett goes over the whole narration a second time, and ends, by returning to the first strophes, from a false notion of effect. The fault of his *Cantata* as music is, indeed, too constant a resort to mechanical repetition. Almost every good phrase is repeated twice, sometimes more frequently. But to have done with faults: the

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'Ancient Mariner' shows an amount of fancy, and taking melody, with which we had not credited its composer. The opening chorus is flowing and sweet; the tripping Bridesmaid's chorus is less to our liking. The soprano song, "The fresh breeze blew," has the air and motion of a cheerful sea-picture; but it is written in too high a register to be accessible to the generality of singers. Mr. Barnett must not look to meet with the exceptional powers of Mdlle. Tietjens every day. The weird chorus "About, about, in reel and rout" (encored), though not strikingly original, is in the right humour. The execution of the line,

The water, like a witch's oils,

as a climax on a *staccato* passage, by so large a chorus, is a thing to be commemorated. The next *encore* was won by Mr. Santley's calm air, "O happy living things!"—the blessing of the water-snakes: a smooth, expressive melody. The "Sleep song" given to Madame Patey-Whytock—the composer having encored himself by repeating the verse with the same words—is a tuneable and gracious melody. The storm chorus, "The loud wind burst," is full of the frenzy of the elements, and contains a happy instance of accumulation, where enhancement of force and fury was not easy to attain. The quartett, "Around, around," though lively and effective, fails, owing to the rapidity of its *tempo* and Mr. Barnett's too prevailing tendency of setting a word to a note, no matter what such word may be. In English concerted music, extreme nicety and care of attention are required; otherwise the effect must become confused and the singers inarticulate. Mr. Barnett might plead the *stretto* of Bishop's "Cough and Crow" by way of precedent; but the verse of Joanna Baillie there set, though little less pointed, is more musically fluent than that of Coleridge. The last *encore* fell to the duett, "Two voices in the air," possibly because of the aerial effect of the instrumentation. Throughout the *Cantata*, let us here say, the orchestra is happily treated. The soprano solo with female voices, "Their seraph band," loses effect from the constant call upon the leading singer for her highest notes, which fatigues the air with amplification. The work closes by a return to the pleasing opening chorus: a phrase of description being made to do duty as a phrase of moral. Seeing that it is published, we may take a future opportunity of adding to these hasty remarks. Its success proved equal to the highest expectations of those who had predicted such a result. When it was ended, its composer was received with more than common warmth.

Friday morning's performance commenced with M. Gounod's 'Messe Solennelle.' This magnificent Catholic service demands a mass of voices and instruments beyond any other which could be named. It is not—as we said, when the majority of our contemporaries mocked at the idea of its writer being considered as a composer—too small for St. Peter's on high festival day. To admit that it is unequal to prove its mortal origin. The 'Credo' turns out in execution to be the weakest because it is the noisiest number, its writer having too largely indulged in his known love of unisons. Yet the "Et incarnatus" and the "et expecto," emerging into the "et vitam," with its quiet yet gorgeous close, redeem it. Nothing can be newer of its kind than the opening of the "Gloria,"—nothing better than the instrumental Offertorium, the stupendous 'Sanctus,' the holy 'Benedictus,' and the final 'Agnus,' all of which are treated with an originality so remarkable as to puz' those listeners, connoisseurs, and critics, who, like Goldsmith's Aristarchus, talk of "the principle of the pyramid" when a work of Art is in question, and who, because a new candidate happens to appear neither Handel, Bach, Mozart, Beethoven nor Mendelssohn, and who is, further, so unfortunate as to be a Frenchman, refuse to admit him within their circle of approval until the barriers thereof are forced by that universal verdict of the great public before which they are compelled to give way when no help is left for them. Such has been the history of M. Gounod's music in England. His Mass has never been so well rendered before. In its celestial portions we were reminded anew of those old Italian pictures where the faces of an angel hierarchy throng the background, dimly seen

through the suffusion of light emanating from the throne of Glory. That the audience was powerfully impressed and delighted as with a new sensation cannot be doubted. The singers who rendered the *solo* were Mdlle. Nilsson, Messrs. Cummings and Santley.

The performances at Birmingham wound up on the Friday evening with 'St. Paul.' It was originally proposed, we have heard, in place of Dr. Mendelssohn's first, to have given Mr. Costa's second oratorio—which was wisely declined by its composer. To expose so substantial a work as 'Naaman' to the chances of a second performance (under the best of circumstances sure to be less effective than a first one) by singers and players inevitably wearied, to an audience surfeited with music, would have been unwise. This might have been considered by the managers of the Festival, which owes so much of its present unparagoned lustre to the energy, zeal, experience, and consummate sagacity of its conductor. The more than ordinary enthusiasm with which he was greeted when all was over may, in some sort, be considered as a protest against anything approaching to neglect of one who could, by no magic or coterie influence, be replaced as a thorough master of his art and every duty belonging to it.

The meeting is understood to have been successful and profitable beyond all precedent. It is not new for us to say that no such pleasant gathering of "all sorts and conditions of men"—apart from its musical supremacy over all similar entertainments with which we are conversant—is to be found in England or on the Continent, so far as we know it. The social cordiality, the indefatigable and equally distributed courtesy of all concerned in its administration, their excellent care for the comfort of every one, cannot be too highly praised, too earnestly propounded, as pattern to those who are called on to perform similar duties.

Three slips of the pen in our last week's notes on the Festivals should be corrected. In page 280, col. 2, last line but one, in place of "having," the phrase should run, *being brought to trial*. Page 281, col. 2, line 12, for "to adopt," read *to have adopted*; lines 24–5, in place of what is printed, read *it is impossible to speak in detail*.

**ADELPHI.**—This theatre closed on Saturday with the last farewell performance of Miss Kate Terry, when she again supported the character of *Juliet*, and was honoured with an extraordinary ovation. It is understood that Miss Terry, having thus gathered in her laurels, will retire into private life. She is certainly a charming actress. Without much physical power, she could nevertheless give, without ostensible effort, great force, by an apparently involuntary gesture or motion, to the expression of feeling or sentiment. As an artist, she gained her ends by an economy of means, and never wasted her powers by overstepping the modesty of nature. Her strength, however, was tried in original parts, which she invested with grace and tenderness. Accordingly, our popular dramatists were ambitious to write characters for her. The last of such in which she appeared was Mr. Charles Reade's *Dora*, which, though not exactly the same as Mr. Tennyson's, was still a stage-portrait of distinctive elegance. These parts, however, did not give Miss Kate Terry that standing with the public which she deserved, and she was justly desirous of showing her skill in more severe art before finally leaving the stage. She therefore commenced a series of parts from Shakespeare, Bulwer Lytton, and Sheridan Knowles. The public at once responded to the appeal, and were charmed with the delicate interpretation which she gave to *Beatrice, Pauline, Julia* and *Juliet*. In all these parts Miss Terry was remarkable for the independence of her conceptions, as well as for her spirit or her pathos. They had not, in some instances, perhaps, the energy of which actresses of more robust physique are capable; but there was in all a fine poetic appreciation and a subtle judgment which satisfied the taste of the more refined among the audiences which she was now capable of commanding. These were both numerous and fashionable. On Saturday there was not standing-room to be obtained; and

the demonstration within the theatre was more than commonly enthusiastic. In all these parts, Miss Terry might have been better supported. But we must recollect that the company is not a Shakespearean one, and that, under all the circumstances, Mr. Neville, Mr. Billington and Mr. Stuart rendered very valuable assistance, and on some points showed talent deserving of commendation.

**OLYMPIC.**—This theatre also closed on Saturday, when the Sisters Webb and the new drama of 'The Grasshoppers' engaged the attention of a large audience for the last time. The piece was remarkably well acted throughout, and received much genuine applause.

**HAYMARKET.**—On Monday Mrs. Scott-Siddons re-appeared in the character of *Rosalind*, and the play of 'As You Like it' was satisfactorily represented, as usual, by the company. Mr. Kendal, in *Orlando*, is new to us, but he is well suited to the part, and his style is at once elegant and vigorous, and likely, we think, to become popular. Mrs. Scott-Siddons has gained in confidence since her last appearance, and acts with considerably more force. Of her intelligence, there never was any doubt. Of *Rosalind's* spirit she has an ample share; and a little further development will enable her to embody it with the requisite energy and completeness.

**PRINCESS'S.**—This theatre re-opened on Monday for the winter season, under the management of Mr. Vining, with Mr. Morton's farce called 'Poor Pillicoddy,' and Mr. Boucicault's drama of 'The Streets of London.' Mr. Boucicault will shortly make his appearance in 'Arrah-na-Pogue.'

#### MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.

ALMOST the only great pianist of European reputation, who has not been publicly heard in England, is Herr Henselt. He has once or twice visited this country; but has passed through London during the dead season. His last flying visit took place on Saturday last, when, we are told, he played for a select few at Messrs. Broadwood's Pianoforte Rooms. Such an announcement is tantalizing to all who were unable to be present.

Last week's *Crystal Palace Concert* was for the benefit of Mr. Manns, at which a large company of solo singers appeared, headed by Madame Lemmens-Sherington. Madame A. Goddard was the solo instrumentalist, her contribution being Beethoven's Choral Fantasia. The programme also included Beethoven's Battle Symphony. The Saturday Concerts, more satisfactory in every respect and less scrambling than the summer musical entertainments, will shortly re-commence.

Chance afforded us, the other morning, the opportunity of hearing the choir of York Minster. The singing was extremely good, so far as we are able to judge, far beyond the average of English cathedral singing; the voices fresh, tuneful, sufficiently powerful and tutored to a refinement which does high credit to Dr. Monk's music school.

Mr. Costa's 'Naaman' will be shortly produced in Paris,—not at the Athénée, which is no longer a concert-room, as was originally intended,—but at the Italian Opera.

"They talk," says the *Gazette Musicale*, "of an opera by Signor Pedrotti being translated for the Théâtre Lyrique." Signor Bagaglino, the new bass, who made so favourable an impression at our Italian Opera this season, has been engaged by M. Bagier.

Madame Viardot has been occupying herself with composing an operetta in one act, to a text by the distinguished Russian author, M. Tourgeneff. Report speaks highly of the music.

Glinka's Russian opera, 'A Life for the Czar,' has been given, with a Czechish text, at Prague, for a Russian singer, Mdlle. Alexandra.

A new 'Didone Abbandonata,' by Signor Benvenuti, is announced in Italian journals; also a fairy opera, 'Mefistofele,' by Signor Boita, the latter for La Scala, at Milan. Thirdly, Signor Mazzucato, who has been long silent, is about to re-appear as a stage composer, in an opera the title of which is 'Fides.'

There is to be a monument to Catalani, if tales are true,—the reader will hardly guess where—in the Campo Santo of Pisa. A feature in the design is a figure of St. Cecilia, by Prof. Coselli, a Tuscan sculptor.

A new opera-house has been opened at Fano, by singers of no less merit than Madame Nantier-Didiée and Signor Tambril, in an opera no less arduous than 'Guillaume Tell.'

Saturday, the 14th inst., is appointed for the opening of many London houses. On that day Mr. Fechter re-appears at the Lyceum, when he will undertake the part of *Claude Melotte*, a character in which many will be curious to see him. The Surrey will also then re-open, and promises a new romantic drama by Mr. Watts Phillips, entitled 'Nobody's Child'; as will likewise Sadler's Wells, with a new company, and the grand spectacle of 'Azazel, the Prodigal,'—the part of *Reuben* will be supported by Mr. Lorraine, and that of *Azazel* by Miss Marriott.

Among the deaths of the past week, the journals announce that of Mdlle. Favanti, whose name will be only remembered in the musical world by the efforts to force her on the public as a star of the first magnitude when she appeared at Her Majesty's Theatre, under Mr. Lumley's management. Had she not been ruined by false praise and its sure concomitants, idleness and vanity, Miss Edwards (such was her real name) might, perhaps, have become what her friends pretended her to be. She had a most extensive voice of fine quality, though its intonation had never been regulated, and a very handsome presence.

#### MISCELLANEA

*Life and Death in the Underground Railway.*—A third sudden death has happened on the Metropolitan Railway, and Dr. Lankester has been thrice, within a few weeks, called upon to act according to his office, because—although the Traffic Manager of the Metropolitan Railway Company stated himself "to be fully convinced that there is less danger on their line than on any other that had a tunnel"—people with throats and lungs less powerful than the company's engines will persist in dying suddenly in the carriages. The faith of traffic-managers is great, and has often been admired: it is only inferior to their simplicity; but it must be great indeed if we are to believe that Mr. Fenton fancies the tunnel in question is not oppressive, unwholesome, and at certain places—as between Gower Street and the Edgware Road—hardly tolerable by strong persons, and absolutely dangerous to the weak. As the majority of persons are more or less liable to asphyxia, this railway company's servants must have been chosen with care from the minority; yet, although it is represented that the "health of these men bears favourable comparison with that of their fellows on any other line," it is time that the directors of the tunnel should understand that they cannot expect to carry salamanders only, and that proper ventilation must be swiftly effected for the suffocating or half-suffocating railway, even if it costs money and slightly reduces the dividend for a time. The company will be bound foolish beyond all railway precedent if it permits the growing prejudice against this mode of travelling to develop. In a very few months more trains are to be run through the tunnel, with corresponding effect upon its atmosphere, and more deaths must follow. Will the public be compelled to wait for some appalling catastrophe, and exemplary damages awaken the consciences of directors to their duty? When the company's servant asserted his belief in the comparative safety of the tunnel, he did not say much, but probably meant less, because the number of trains and passengers must be taken into account. He meant, no doubt, that fewer deaths than usual had happened on his line, and was justified in the assertion because very few persons have been slain by "accidents." He forgot that passengers may as well be smashed as suffocated.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—J. W.—W. K.—H.—S. W.—J. C. P.—T. J. E.—received.

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